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THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

A CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT DEFENDED BY A LORD.

THE annual debate on Mr Ward's motion, in relation to the Irish church, came off in the house of Commons, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, last week. We cannot let it pass without comment. Not, indeed, that it presented any great novelty. The ordinary features of it were more than usual by ordinary—the dullness of it more than commonly dull. But the speech of Lord John Russell merits notice, inasmuch as his lordship stooped to assign reasons in support of a dogma which British statesmen have hitherto contented themselves with taking for granted—namely, that it is the duty of the state to provide religious instruction for the people. We are willing to hope that this fact is a cheering indication of the progress of public opinion on this subject. Something is gained when oracular authority is felt to be insufficient. When men set about proving the soundness of first principles, the inference is fair, that those principles have exhibited some signs of giving way—that the pressure upon them is looked upon as serious, if not threatening—and that the march of enlightenment requires other and better modes of defence than the simple utterance of assumed axioms. We are always pleased to see an antagonist cast away old weapons, and betake himself to new ones. We naturally conclude that the stress of conflict is beating down his confidence; and, therefore, we hail Lord John Russell's attempt to defend his position by argument, as a not insignificant sign of the times.

His lordship puts forward several reasons in support of the theory which he has been wont to treat as indisputable. We propose to pass them under review.

The first is original—and lest we should do injustice to it by putting it into other language than that used by the noble lord himself, we shall insert the passage which contains it from the parliamentary report of his grateful admirer, the *Morning Chronicle*:—

"Sir, in the first place, it is the duty of the state to give the means of religious instruction to the people—I mean with respect to those subjects in which the state itself interferes. If a man commits a breach of trust, he is sent to prison; if a man commits a theft, he is, in all probability, sent to pass his days in a foreign land; if a man commits murder, his life is forfeited. I think, then, if the state does all these things, and if the state uses its authority to punish, it should endeavour likewise, by alliance or connexion with some body capable of doing so, to give to the people the means of instruction—to give to them the means of knowing, 'Thou shalt do no murder'—the means of learning the maxim, 'Do unto others as you would they should do unto you.' I consider it to be the duty of the state, apart from any particular sect or dogma which may distinguish one denomination of Christians from another, to endeavour that means shall be afforded for that instruction."

The argument of the noble lord may be put thus—"Where the state punishes, the state is bound to teach—penalty may otherwise be incurred in ignorance. Now an established church discharges this obligation of the state—consequently, an established church is required by reason." The argument proves too much—it proves that what is wanted is an exposition of the law, not of the gospel—and that the statute-book of the realm, not the statute-book of Christ, should furnish forth the matter for parochial mi-

nistration. Breach of trust, theft, murder, are understood by most men to be crimes which bring them within the reach of punishment, even without the intervention of a state church. Taking partridges' eggs, cutting sticks from a plantation, constructive conspiracy, and the like, are not so generally known to be infractions of the law, although they equally expose a man to punishment. It is the duty of the state, according to Lord John Russell, "apart from any particular dogma, which may distinguish one denomination of Christians from another," to enlighten them on this head. These are "subjects in which the state itself interferes," and "if the state uses authority to punish, it should endeavour likewise, by alliance, or connexion with some body capable of doing so, to give to the people the means of instruction." A tolerably wide field of pulpit exhortation is here thrown open to the clergy. Let them discard their Bible, with its dogmas, and substitute for it the statutes of the realm. Their proper business, as servants of the state, is not with religion, but with law—and they are to teach, not the relationship of men to God, but the relationship of subjects to rulers.

The noble lord having delivered himself of this new reason in vindication of his principles, proceeds with another which is not new. Again we quote from himself.

"You are not bound to furnish advice for diseases of the body, because diseases in themselves are accompanied with such pain and infirmity, that the patient himself readily seeks for advice. It is not so with the passions and diseases which affect the immortal part of man [cheers]. It is very different when the fever of passion has the most influence—when the infirmities of self-indulgence have gained the greatest sway—then it is, very often, that the patient himself will be the least inclined to submit himself to any religious instruction [cheers]."

True! very true! but then it only proves, that they who have overcome the disease, who have proved in their own persons the efficacy of the cure, in whose "immortal part" "the fever of passion" has been subdued, and in whom "the infirmities of self-indulgence" have been conquered, are the proper persons to dispense the healing blessing, and are under obligation to carry it to those least inclined to submit to its benign operation. It does not prove that it is the duty of those in whom the fever rages to superintend the application to others of a remedy which themselves refuse to apply. What is the state? King, lords, and commons. What guarantee does their exaltation to office afford us, that they are exempt from "the infirmities of self-indulgence?" None whatever. On the contrary—if any class may be expected, owing to the influence of education and position, to be the victims of worldliness, they may. Facts demonstrate the correctness of the anticipation. Of all men, they are about the least affected to simple and spiritual Christianity. Of all men who aspire to take the mote out of their brother's eye, they are most chargeable with having the beam in their own eye. Other men may be reluctant to submit to religious instruction—but are they a whit less so? How, then, can it be their duty to play the physician in this matter? Are they likely to understand the disease, or is their example fitted to recommend the proposed plan of cure? Rebels, it is true, may be very averse to be won back to loyalty—but certainly the proper parties to thrust wholesome but unwelcome instruction before them, cannot be their fellow-rebels. Men, unhappily, are not Christians because they are statesmen—and to all states, as they exist in this world, undertaking the religious instruction of the people, the advice is pertinent, "Physician, heal thyself."

The duty, however, belongs to the state, his lordship further argues, because ministers of religion, when wholly supported by their flocks, lose their independence, and are under temptation to accommodate their teaching to the tone of opinion prevalent amongst their people. The temptation we admit—the inference drawn from it in favour of establishments we deny. The clergy are not more independent than dissenting ministers. Each class relies upon some other class for emolument—the clergy on the rulers, the dissenting ministers on the ruled. If the last are likely to sympathise with the people, the first are equally likely to sympathise with the government. The question is not, as the noble lord would represent it, between dependence on the one hand, and independence on the other; but, assuming dependence in both cases, whether it should rest upon the aristocracy

or upon the people. Now, looking at human nature as it is, and taking into consideration the laws by which it works, and by which it is itself controlled—setting aside for a moment the revealed will of Christ, which these statesmen never allow to become an element in the formation of their judgment—we prefer that the dependence should be upon the affections of the congregation taught, rather than upon the arbitrary will of the aristocratic patron who presents. We are sure there is less of selfishness in the one case than in the other; and we are equally certain that subserviency, if there be any, is far less servile in the first case than in the last.

Lord John Russell is plainly of a different opinion, as the following extract from his speech will show:—

"It is impossible to deny that, although their character is that of teachers of religion, if they are respected—if they are looked up to—there is no subject upon which either their advice will not be asked, or upon which their opinion will not, in a great degree, guide the movement of the people. Therefore it is not altogether safe to have that power left in the hands of persons dependent for the means of subsistence upon the popular voice. There becomes too great a mixture of political movement and ecclesiastical influence, and the state might be placed in danger when there was a great popular movement, and the teachers of religion did not venture to counteract that movement."

Yes! This is the real, the undisguised reason, for his lordship's support of an establishment. The voluntary principle would peril the ascendancy of his "order." Political movements, kept in check by no state-paid advocates of "things as they are," would become too popular. The ministers whom the statesman affects to wish were independent, would, "if respected," acquire too much influence, and would "in a great degree guide the movement of the people." This, assuredly, would be not altogether safe—but Lord John Russell knows too well that it would not be good government, but bad government that would be endangered. Exclusive privileges, grinding monopolies, unrighteous wars, national extravagance, and all the fripperies of noble houses and ancient families, might have too early and too peremptory a notice to quit. They have had their warning in Ireland—and already the cry amongst the ruling class is "Pay the priesthood—endow the Romish clergy." Give the people the elements of Christianity through any other hands than those of state stipendiaries, and they will imbibe from them a spirit of liberty incompatible with the maintenance of feudalism in any of its various forms. The whig leader is sharp-sighted enough to discern this—and hence he deduces his conclusion that "it is the duty of the state to provide religious instruction for the people."

THE HOMAGE OF TREASON.

In a debate which took place in the House of Lords a few nights since, and in the division following upon which, by the bye, ministers sustained a defeat, the Bishop of Exeter, in the true spirit of "*nolo episcopari*," disclaimed any wish to sit as a legislator in that house in opposition to the will of the nation. The advantages derived by the people from the presence of the bishops in the upper chamber of legislature, very naturally accounted, in his judgment, for the anxiety of the country at large, that these reverend fathers should retain their privileges. Pious too, was pleased with an arrangement whereby it might express its homage to the "blessed Founder of our faith."

We have met with many reasons for what had heretofore appeared to us an unseemly practice—but that urged by the Bishop of Exeter is as novel as it is convincing. We can now see the use of bishops—a thing we never could make out to our satisfaction before. They constitute the nation's thank-offering to the great Head of the church. Sending bishops to the House of Lords is the quintessence of religious gratitude. Their appearance there, decked with baronial honours, to exercise the functions of a legislator, is a national expression of attachment to Christian truth—the pipe on which a devout people play, in ever-varying notes, their tune of praise. How could they otherwise disburden themselves of their feelings of obligation! Some men might recommend to them a stricter morality—some might urge activity in communicating to others the benefits they enjoy, and in spreading the faith they have so deeply at heart. These, however, are but vulgar modes of paying homage to the truth. Exeter points out to

them a better method. Would they give play to their reverential affection for their divine Master? let them exalt the bishops—would they show themselves Christians? let them make the bishops lords.

We have somewhere or other read a passage to the following effect—"The kings of the gentiles exercise lordship over them, and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you let him be as the younger: and he that is chief as he that doth serve." We should be curious to hear the Bishop of Exeter discourse upon that text. Ample scope would be allowed for his subtlety of intellect in showing that, by reversing this rule, the profoundest homage would be paid to the Author of it—that, under some circumstances, especially where the honour of bishops is in question, the best way to keep a command is to trample upon it—and the likeliest mode of pleasing Heaven is to push aside its precepts with contempt. All the power of his logic might be brought to bear in proving that in relation to ecclesiastics the most religious rule for a country to adopt is the rule of contrary—and his solemnity of manner might add impressiveness to the picture of a whole people eagerly pressing forward to render fealty to Christ by setting at naught his own decrees.

We have been lately debating with ourselves whether, in the long run, bishops or M.P.s, deliver themselves of the larger quantity of sheer heathenism. For a length of time we were of opinion, that no class of men on earth could successfully compete with the latter. We acknowledge our error—we quite overlooked the bishops. Match us Henry of Exeter if you can!

SUFFERINGS OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.—In 1688, the revolution, which settled the kingly authority on a better basis, still left the people called quakers in the power of the clergy, through the laws in force or unpealed. And there appears to have been taken from the members of this society, by distraint, for ecclesiastical purposes, in the ten years—

1700 to 1709	£42,849	1780 to 1789	£57,398
1710 to 1719	49,063	1790 to 1799	81,412
1720 to 1729	44,094	1800 to 1809	100,226
1730 to 1739	43,759	1810 to 1819	146,520
1740 to 1749	46,576	1820 to 1829	141,960
1750 to 1759	45,378	1830 to 1839	122,250
1760 to 1769	50,010	1840 to 1843	52,200
1770 to 1779	54,380		

£1,078,075

There remains to mention "their sufferings" in the forty-five years previous to 1700, and these cannot be stated at less than £180,000. (See "Collection of Sufferings," by J. Besse. London, 1753.) On the whole account it is computed, on good authority, that the spoliation of the property of the members of the society of Friends has amounted, in 184 years, to one million, two hundred and fifty-eight thousand pounds sterling, and upwards! In addition to the above account we have received a written statement, addressed to the justices of the peace and magistrates of Lancashire, relative to the excessive and grievous distraints, made upon the property of members of the society in that county, for refusal to pay ecclesiastical imposts. The document is signed by some of the leading members of the society of Friends in that county, including Messrs Crossfield of Liverpool, John Bright of Rochdale, Ashworth of Bolton, Satterthwaite of Preston, Neild of Warrington, &c. The address details several cases of gross and wanton oppression in carrying out the law, the nature of which may be gathered from the following extract:—

"Many thoughtful minds, when they learn these facts, will be ready to ask, 'What valid reason can be assigned for sanctioning distraints upon five of our Friends in the neighbourhood of Liverpool, to the extent of £55 11s. 6d., where the whole of the demands amounted only to £7 2s. 9d.?' and they will inquire, not only why a seven-fold amount was seized, but how it happened that, in two of the instances, all account of what became of their property was withheld from the sufferers.

"We submit, whether it will be an easy matter to justify the spirit in which laws are administered, when the dwelling of our friend Ralph Neild was twice, in little more than one year, visited by persons under your authority, who carried off and sold his furniture; and when, on the second occasion, during his absence from home, property to the value of £6 10s. was seized, for a demand of four shillings and a penny only!

"Again; we wish not to be misunderstood; our complaint is not now made to you of the law which exacts four shillings, but we do complain of the administration of the law, which, for such a sum, sanctioned a seizure to the amount of six pounds fifteen shillings.

"And we apprehend, that it will be still more difficult to reconcile with justice, the seizure of fifty to ninety times the value of the amount demanded, from our Friends of Preston.

"We feel freedom to make the acknowledgement, that the accounts of these excessive distraints, losses, and sufferings, which continue to reach us from year to year, but which we have hitherto abstained from bringing under your notice, whilst they ever afford to the members of our body, opportunity for the manifestation of Christian sympathy one with another, also become the treasured memorials of the faithfulness of the society to our ancient and well known testimony, against all payments to a hireling ministry, in support of Christianity."

We hope that the members of this religious body will follow the example that has already been set them by several of their most distinguished brethren, in throwing themselves into the Anti-state-church movement, and in lending the aid of their influence,

and that undeviating consistency and adherence to principle, which has always marked their conduct in reference to ecclesiastical imposts, in the subversion of that system of which tithes and church rates are only the exponents.

CHURCH RATES, DERBY.—On Tuesday se'night, Mr James Gawthorn, and Mr J. Corbin, dissenting ministers, Messrs G. Stevenson, R. London, and T. and J. Tomlinson, —Earp, T. Cooke, J. Chorlton, J. Etches, and Miss Trafford, were summoned by the churchwardens of St Werburgh's parish, in the above town, for non-payment of church rates. In the cases of Mr Gawthorn, G. Stevenson, and Earp, the validity of the rate was objected to, and of course removed out of the jurisdiction of the magistrates. The summons against Mr Cooke and Miss Trafford fell to the ground; and in the other cases, with the exception of that of Mr J. Corbin, whose rate had been paid by some person without his knowledge, orders for payment were issued.

WIDDECOMBE-IN-THE-MOOR.—CHURCH RATES.—On Friday last, a meeting of the parishioners was convened at the Church house, for the purpose of granting a church rate of 4d in the pound for the ensuing year. It having been understood that a previous collection of the rates had been made without any authority for so doing, a large number of the yeomen attended to oppose the rate. The proceedings commenced by calling on the Rev. J. Mason, the vicar, to take the chair, who was supported by many of the most rigid church and state adherents, who attended with all their forces. The chairman having read aloud the form of the rate, which had been entered in the parish book, signed the rate. This, of course, was a signal for his party to follow the same steps. On the book being handed to a liberal yeoman to sign, he said he begged to propose an amendment to adjourn the meeting to that day twelve months. Here the chairman appeared surprised, for it was clear that a storm was forthcoming, which no earthly power could divert. He was asked to put the amendment, but he refused to do so. The no-church-rate party, nothing daunted, showed that they had a decided majority of four to one in favour of the amendment. The liberal party having the book in their possession, a conservative, with more courage than politeness, sprang at the person who held the book, and tore it in pieces. A good deal of excitement now arose, which terminated in a general squabble—kicks and blows were exchanged, and garments were torn. The clergyman left the meeting, and no rate was granted. It is the opinion of many of the parishioners that the charity property left to the parish is sufficient to render church rates unnecessary.—*Western Times.*

TOWYN ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.—In unison with the principles adopted at the Anti-state-church Convention lately held in London, a public meeting was held at Towyn, Merionethshire, on Friday, the 7th instant; the chair was taken by Mr E. Griffith, pastor of the congregational church of Llanegryn, who opened the meeting in a most eloquent and appropriate speech, and then called Mr D. Morgan, of Llanfyllin, who delivered a most enlightened address on the evils arising from the union of church and state in all countries. The chairman then called Mr G. Evans, of Maesypandy; Mr Evans briefly explained how the state church burdened the poor of this country, and showed the duty of dissenters (particularly dissenting ministers), to advocate the cause in public. Some time ago a committee was formed at Towyn, to carry out the principles of civil and religious liberty in all its branches; for that purpose it was deemed necessary to procure a lecture room; this year the tithe barn became vacant (the tithe of the parish being commuted), the above-mentioned committee applied for it, in order to have it converted into an anti-state-church lecture room, &c., and the liberal tithe proprietor promised to grant them a lease upon the premises; the arrangement has given a general satisfaction to the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, and the above meeting (held in it) was very numerous and respectfully attended, and the addresses seemed to create great and general anxiety for the promotion of the object in view.

HERTS RURAL POLICE AND OPEN AIR PREACHING.—A case which has caused considerable excitement was heard at St Albans, on Friday last, by J. D. Adey, Esq., and T. F. Gape, Esq., two of the magistrates for the liberty of St Albans. Mr Jonah Champion, a licensed preacher of the primitive methodist connexion, had taken out a summons against Thomas Evans, of the "Herts rural police," charging him with an assault under the following circumstances:—On Sunday morning, June 2nd, Mr Champion went from St Albans to London Colney, a hamlet in the parish of St Peter's, Herts, to preach, as by his appointment on the circuit plan of the connexion. Arrived at London Colney at 20 minutes past 10 in the morning, Mr Champion took his stand on some waste land to the right of the bridge, on the St Peter's side of the river, a considerable distance from any road, footpath, or house; after singing an hymn, the minister commenced praying; while thus engaged, the policeman (Evans) came to him, and, in a tone of great authority, demanded his license. The preacher told him that, as he was not a magistrate, he did not feel disposed to comply. He then said he had received an order from a magistrate to prevent him from preaching there. The congregation present when the policeman came, did not exceed half a score. On the plaintiff inquiring of the policeman who had complained, he said that some of the inhabitants objected to his coming there for the purpose of preaching. Plaintiff refused to leave the place; upon which defendant (Evans) took him by the breast, and leading him to the high

road, gave him a heavy thrust, and said, "There, go about your business." Plaintiff replied, "If so, I shall go and preach, as I came here for that purpose." Whereupon the policeman came to him, and setting his hands to plaintiff's shoulders, drove him up the street as fast as he could run. Defendant, accompanied by another policeman, then brought plaintiff to the police station house at St Albans, three miles off. Evans then left plaintiff, and went away to the residence of the Rev. Dr Nicholson, and shortly returned, saying that "the magistrate said if he (plaintiff) could get two persons to be bound that he would not go there again, he should be set at liberty." Plaintiff refused. Again defendant left, and shortly returned, and said, "if he (plaintiff) would be bound himself, that would be sufficient." Again plaintiff refused. Policeman again came, and told plaintiff not to go there again, and he might consider himself at liberty. Plaintiff refused to be set at liberty without going before a magistrate, but the policeman would not take him to one. The policeman then set all the doors open; and telling plaintiff it would be better for him to go, left him in the station house, where plaintiff remained until legally discharged by Mr Kinder, a magistrate, at eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning. On the hearing of the case on Friday, the defendant Evans was accompanied to the house of the magistrate by the Rev. Dr Nicholson, rector of the parish of St Albans; the Rev. Markland Bernard, incumbent of St Peters, London Colney, and others. Mr Champion conducted his own case; and Mr Blagg, solicitor of St Albans, appeared for the policeman. After a full hearing of the case, the magistrates convicted the policeman in a fine of 2s. 6d. with costs; and very properly admonished him, telling him he had no right to take plaintiff into custody, unless he had obstructed some public footpath or road.—*Correspondent.*

ANOTHER PARALLEL TO ARCHDEACON DE LACY.—As I was passing along the road, one Sabbath-day, to a place of worship in company with a friend, not a thousand miles from the city of York, a tall, gaunt, figure, clerically costumed, was leisurely descending the hill, with a whelp at his heels. Myself: Who is that gentleman? Friend: A clergyman. Myself: Has he a living in the neighbourhood? Friend: Not a regular living; but he has an estate here, and preaches occasionally. Do you know what kind of dog that is that is following? Myself: It is a hound, and I should conjecture it to be the fox breed. Friend: Its master, whom it is following, is one of the greatest fox hunters in the neighbourhood. Though upwards of sixty years of age, no one in the field is so overjoyed when the fox starts from cover as himself. The huntsman says, he can compare him to nothing but a great boy on the occasion, transported at the unexpected sight of some joyous object. He has an excellent stud of hunters. He is just now coming from the inn, to which he repairs every Sabbath day for the newspaper. It is a wonder that he is not now reading it on his way home. Myself: What is his general character? Friend: A saving, keeping, grasping, man, in everything but hunters and hounds. Myself: And he really preaches in the neighbourhood? Friend: Yes; and is perfectly shameless. He went to officiate at W— one day, and putting his hand into his pocket, when he had left the reading desk for the pulpit, he found himself minus of his sermon, and, apologising abruptly for its absence, pronounced the blessing. But, though absent, not lost; for a person who had followed in his wake, in the course of the day, found it in one of the fields, wrapped up in the pedigree of a stallion.—*Wesleyan Chronicle.*

HOUSES OF ILL FAME IN WESTMINSTER.—In the House of Lords on Friday evening, during the discussion on the Bishop of Exeter's Suppression of Brothels bill, the Bishop of Gloucester stated he had been assured that the whole of the houses of ill fame in the Almonry, Westminster, had been pulled down, and that he "had the satisfaction of learning that the whole of the property in question was entirely and completely beyond the control of the Dean and Chapter." In reply to these statements, a correspondent of the *Patriot* and parishioner of Westminster says—

"There is not one word of truth in all this. Every one of the twenty-four brothels are standing at this very moment; 'tis true, four of them are closed, but the other twenty are fully and actively employed, as they have been, to my certain knowledge, for the last forty years; and, I believe, for a very much longer period than that. I have just returned from a personal inspection of these Almonry brothels, it being eight o'clock on Saturday evening, the 15th of June, 1844, and have counted twenty of them occupied in a way public decency forbids my further describing."

The "Parishioner" states that, during the forty years in which, to his personal knowledge, these houses have been devoted to their horrid purposes, the leases of most of them have been renewed over and over again; that, as the application for renewal is made every fourteen years, his lordship and his colleagues, or their predecessors or representatives, could not have inspected any of the houses in order to settle the renewal fines, without seeing the immoral purposes to which the whole were devoted; that these houses are not held in the Dean and Chapter's general lease, as his lordship intimates, but are or were held by different parties, and the leases of the different parcels fell in for renewal at different periods; and that the clergy or their representatives could not inspect a portion of them without becoming acquainted with the vile character of the whole.

THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE IN JAMAICA.—At a private meeting, held at Dr Fairbank's, in Hanover street, Kingston, for the purpose of considering if any steps should be taken to advance the "voluntary principle," and for other purposes connected

therewith; present—Rev. Matthew Baxter, in the chair; Rev. Mr Oughton, Rev. Mr Barrett, Rev. Mr Rouse, Rev. Mr Slayter, Rev. Mr Wood, and Dr Fairbank. It was moved by Dr Fairbank, seconded by the Rev. Samuel Oughton, and carried unanimously:—

"That all public taxation for religious purposes is inexpedient, oppressive, and unrighteous."

Moved by the Rev. Mr Barrett, seconded by the Rev. Mr Wood, and carried unanimously:—

"That the large sums which are annually voted from the public purse for the support of the law-established church, and for ecclesiastical purposes, press unjustly on a large proportion of the population of this island; and that it is the duty of this meeting to devise measures to attempt the removal of such abuses."

Moved by the Rev. Mr Slayter, seconded by Dr Fairbank, and carried unanimously:—

"That it appears desirable that a general meeting of the friends and supporters of the voluntary principle be held at an early period, to devise means for co-operation, and for giving practical effect to the objects of this meeting."

Moved by the Rev. S. Oughton, seconded by the Rev. Mr Wood, and carried unanimously:—

"That the Rev. Matthew Baxter, the Chairman, and Dr Fairbank, the secretary, be requested to forward the resolutions of this meeting to the Secretary of the Western Union, and to the Editor of the *Baptist Herald*, and any other adherents of the voluntary principle, and suggest the importance of holding a convention in Spanish Town, either in the last week of April, or the first week in May."

—*Jamaica Royal Gazette.*

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Buck Charter bill, against, 6.
Corn laws, against alteration of, 516.
County Courts bill, for, 8.
Dissenters' Chapels bill, against, 1.
Disfranchisement bill, against, 233.
Ecclesiastical courts bill, against, 1.
Marriages (Ireland), to legalise, 13.
Poor Law Amendment bill, against, 5.
Against repeal of Gilbert's act, 32.
St Asaph and Bangor dioceses, against union of, 7.
State Trials (Ireland), for inquiry into, 2.
Tailors' Trade, for regulation of, 19.
Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 4.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Appeal in Criminal Cases bill.
Crowners (Ireland) bill.
Copyholds Enfranchisement bill.
Canal Companies bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Aliens bill.
Bank of England Charter bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

County Rates bill.
Smoke Prohibition bill.
Sugar Duties bill.
Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) bill.

BILL READ A THIRD TIME.

Limitation of Actions (Ireland) bill.

DEBATES.

Tuesday, June 11th.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

In the postscript of our last number, we gave a brief summary of the debate on Mr Ward's motion for going into committee of the whole House on the temporalities of the Irish church. As Mr Ward's speech contained much useful information, we subjoin one or two extracts, which want of space prevented us from giving before:—

What, then, was the question which they had in the first place to discuss?

Last year his estimate of the revenues £
of the Irish church was 552,753
Lord Eliot's 432,023

Difference 120,730

Both of these estimates were very much under the mark. He believed that he might take the—

Episcopal revenues as 151,127
Deans and prebends 34,481
Minor canons and vicars choral 10,525

Parochial tithes 196,133

Episcopal 486,785

Received by dignitaries 9,515

Received by dignitaries 24,360

Deduct 25 per cent. for rent charge 520,660

Remain 130,165

Add episcopal revenues (tithes deducted, £33,875) 390,495

..... 162,258

..... 552,753

Glebes, as valued by ecclesiastical commissioners 80,000

Ministers' money 10,000

Demised tithes 8,000

Total present income 650,753

Out of this income they provided for a population of 750,000 episcopalians. This was the real number, because, in the original census, the Wesleyan methodists had been included, which they ought not to have been, as they maintained 300 chapels themselves [hear, hear]. Taking, then, the number as 750,000 protestants, they would recollect that in England there were 14 millions. In Ireland there were 2,450 parishes, in England there were 10,750. With these 2,450 parishes there were 1,422 beneficed clergymen. In Ireland, too, they had two archbishops and ten bishops. While in England and Wales there were but two archbishops and twenty-four bishops for ten times the episcopalian population. In Ireland there was one bishop to every 118 persons. In England there was only one bishop to every 412 persons. In the diocese of Lincoln there were 1,200 persons.

nefices, and in that of Norwich 1,033 benefices, so that two bishops superintend 2,292 benefices; while in Ireland there were twelve bishops to superintend 1,422 benefices. Now, would not one archbishop and three bishops, at the most, be sufficient to superintend 1,422 benefices? Again, taking the income of the church at £650,000, that would show that 18s. or 20s. was the sum paid for the spiritual instruction of each member of the episcopalian population. But that was not all they had done for the church. Look at the educational grants—the grants for building churches and glebe houses. There was £1,000,000 for the arrears of tithes; £595,000 for churches; £366,000 for glebe houses; £1,378,000 for education grants, and the Kildare Street society; making a total of £3,310,627 laid out since the Union. Out of the education grant upwards of £1,000,000 had been devoted to the chartered schools.

It did so happen that he still received very curious communications from Ireland; in fact, his desk was a sort of receptacle for Irish church grievances ("Hear, hear," and a laugh). He had a placard sent him the other day—the genuineness of which could not be disputed, for it was taken from where it had been stuck up, on the walls of Kells—it was the announcement of a sale of the genuine effects of the late venerable Thomas de Lacy, the archdeacon of Meath; and among the "genuine effects" he found stated, "forty thoroughbred horses and mares, from three to seven years old [laughter]; and also those justly celebrated and well-known sires, Sir Edward and Sir Hugh [continued laughter]. Their reputation as hunters and steeple chasers was such as to render all comment unnecessary" [loud laughter]. All these were the genuine effects of the Venerable Archdeacon of Meath. Here they are [continued the honourable member, holding up the placard]; here are all their names and designations duly set forth. Besides the thorough-breds, there were "thirteen capital working horses, and five Spanish donkeys, three of them in foal" [laughter]. Besides all these, he had the announcement of a sale of dogs in Dublin. There were "thirty couples of beagles, the handsomest and of the best blood in Ireland;" and then there were thirteen pair of greyhounds, "well known in Meath" [laughter]. All these were the property of the same reverend gentleman [laughter]. Now, he thought that this did not savour much of an apostolical age.

Lord ELIOT and Mr SHAW opposed the motion at some length, and the debate was adjourned.

Wednesday, June 12th.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

The adjourned debate on the temporalities of the Irish church was resumed by

Colonel RAWDON, who lamented the want of interest in the question, shown by so thin a House, and controverted the doctrine that the Irish church was the basis of the Act of Union. He contended that the legislature was pledged to redress the grievances of Ireland, and that no one could deny that the church was one of her grievances.

Sir JOHN WALSH denied Mr Ward's assertion, that the penal laws were made to prop up the establishment, and insisted upon the national faith being pledged to the maintenance of the church.

Mr M. O'CONNELL, Mr D. BROWNE, and Sir C. NAPIER addressed the House in favour of the motion; and Mr FORBES and Mr HAMILTON against it. The galleries were then cleared for a division, but it appearing that there were scarcely fifty members present, and that the advocates of the motion were the more numerous, the debate was resumed by Mr BORTHWICK, to give time for the various party scouts to muster up a sufficient number of members to make a tolerable show on the division list. He was followed by

Mr V. SMITH, who was of opinion that religious establishments were useful only where they coincided with the faith of the majority of the people. The present Irish church appeared to him to be in its effect an anti-protestant institution. He wished to see something taken from the protestant church and given to the Roman catholics, his object being to make the Roman catholic clergy a little less dependent than at present on their flocks, and yet not altogether subservient to the state. He wished also to see some alteration in the Roman catholic oath, upon which Lord Stanley had, early in this session, made some comment, apparently intended to taunt or intimidate the Roman catholic members. Nobody had been induced to support emancipation by the notion that this oath was any security to the protestant religion. There was another relief which the government ought to give to the Roman catholics—namely, the facilitation of endowments to their religion, which measure had been promised but not yet produced.

Sir J. GRAHAM remarked that the subject of the Roman catholic oath was irrelevant to this debate; and he would only observe upon that oath, that he considered its construction to be matter for each member's individual conscience. With respect to the Irish church, the government had endeavoured to purify it; but, in its purified state, were resolved to uphold it with its utmost strength. He would not say that the Union precluded all changes in the temporalities of the church; but his opinion was, that such changes should be made, not with a view to weaken, but to confirm the establishment. On this ground it was that he had been a party to the removal of sinecures and other abuses; but he would not be a party to reductions which should carry away the church property to uses not connected with the church. The government had been reminded in this debate that they had promised to remove all substantial grievances, and to effect all safe improvements in Ireland. He believed the now pending measure respecting the registration of Irish electors to be a measure of this beneficial character. He had the same impression with respect to the pending Municipal bill. Then as to the facilitation of Roman catholic endowments. On that subject a bill was prepared, would be forthwith introduced, and was intended to be passed in the present session. Moreover, it was the design of government to

increase the vote for religious education in Ireland. All these were legitimate boons. But this proposal to take away the property of the Irish church, whether for the endowment of the Roman catholics or for secular purposes, was one which, in his opinion, justice, honour, and policy alike forbade, and which the government was determined firmly to resist.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL contended that, even if all the abuses of the Irish church were admitted to be in a course of extinction, still there remained the argument that the whole state provision for religion was in the hands of only one-tenth of the people. He would inquire whether the protestant church now answered the proper purposes of an establishment so completely that no change could fully be made in it? His own view of an establishment was; that it should give the means of instruction to the people. As the state punished the people's offences, it was bound to teach them how to avoid offending. For the diseases of the body the patient suffering pain would seek relief of his own accord; but the diseases of his immortal part being usually unfelt by him, the remedy was not spontaneously sought, and, consequently, those were the cases in which the state was especially bound to interpose for his preservation. Besides, where the religious teacher was dependent wholly on his congregation he had an inducement to flatter their vices; and to that cause might be traced the guilty support which was given to slavery by religious teachers in the United States. Politically, too, it was inexpedient that the teachers of religion should have an interest to side with the people against the state. How important an object was it, therefore, to engage the Roman catholic clergy on the side of the state, by some provision which should make them, in some degree, independent of their flocks? There were two hundred and seventeen Irish parishes without a single protestant; and what duties connected with the state could the pastors of such parishes have to perform? The Irish people were yet loyal; but when they should see that they imposed upon them what no other nation in Europe submits to, the warmest loyalty might cool. While they refused to apply to Ireland the rule which they applied to England and Scotland, the discontent of Ireland was a justifiable one. Until they had done that, they had no right to say they had done justice to Ireland.

Sir R. PEEL said that, having in the last, and again in the present, session stated his opinions upon this subject, he regretted to be under the necessity of repeating them now; but he could not shrink from such a repetition, in the official position which he held. Lord J. Russell had not stated the principle which he would adopt in the proposed committee; but he had said that which would lead to a conclusion that the Roman catholic religion must become the established one in Ireland; for he had treated the discontent of that country as justifiable, unless the same rule were applied to it which was applied to Scotland and to England. He admitted that he had treated the Act of Union as not absolutely binding, under all circumstances and at all hazards; but he had also stated that its spirit was not to be departed from without a strong necessity. He had himself, when he introduced the Relief bill of 1829, relied on the understanding that the integrity of the Irish church was to be preserved; no other intention or impression had been entertained by Mr Pitt at the time of the Union; and it was most dangerous that these great compacts and mutual understandings should be lightly rescinded. He did not believe that the religious animosities of Ireland were generated by the existence of the church establishment, or would be removed by its extinction. Very recently, on the Dissenters' Chapels bill, he had found much greater animosity between different sects of dissenters than between dissenters and the established church. When Lord Althorp introduced the bill for the abolition of ten bishoprics, it was hailed by the reformers with delight; yet now, only ten years after that large reform, harsher language was used than when the whole was unreformed. His refusal to enter into this committee was not because he wished to avoid any useful correction of non-residence, or of any other still remaining abuse, for in such corrections he was ready to persevere; but he opposed the motion, because he was satisfied that the church ought to be maintained, and that to go into committee would only be to countenance delusion.

Mr SHEIL desired to know what course was to be taken respecting Maynooth, about which nothing had been said. Surely the government would not be so disingenuous as to offer an endowment to the clergy which they knew the clergy would refuse, and to withhold an endowment from Maynooth which they knew that Maynooth would accept. Yet the government had been wholly silent on this important point. He blamed Sir J. Graham for having thrown out an intimation that to touch the Irish church would be to endanger all other Irish property; that was the excitement of an unfair prejudice—of a false alarm; it was the invocation of the ghost of Cromwell to mount guard upon the ministerial camp. He drew a parallel between the Canadian clergy reserves and the Irish protestant church. There was no express mention of the temporalities of the church in the Irish Act of Union; while in the Canadian constitution the reserves had been expressly guarded; yet, under the popular pressure of necessity, the sanctity of the reserves was given up by Lord Sydenham. What he now asked was, not a subversion of the church, but only a reduction of her revenue, a modification of her establishment. If the state and the church must be connected, he did but ask that, as in the state, so in the church, mere sinecures should be retrenched. As in Canada the government had found it expedient to act in conformity with the wishes of the

people, so let them act in Ireland, and not disastrously throw away this great occasion of rendering an invaluable service to their country.

Sir R. INGLIS spoke amidst much confusion, and Mr WARD having said two or three words by way of reply, the house divided:—

Against his motion 274
For it 179

Majority against it 95

Thursday, June 13th.

THE GOVERNMENT BANK REFORM.

On the order of the day for the second reading of the Bank of England Charter bill, Mr HAWES moved as an amendment—

"That no sufficient evidence has been laid before this House to justify the proposed interference with banks of issue in the management of their circulation."

He perfectly agreed in the principles of the bill of 1819 as respects the convertibility of notes at the option of the holder, and to all that Sir Robert Peel had said as to the gold standard of value: but it was necessary to consider the grounds why it was proposed to give convertibility more force than by the bill of 1819. The object of the present bill is to make the paper circulation conform more closely to the gold circulation, which was declared to be prevented by the unlimited competition in the issue of paper. He denied that unlimited competition; for the convertibility of each note into gold at the will of the holder is a natural and sufficient check on unlimited competition. The report of the bullion committee alleged as the consequences of an over-issue of paper, the difference between the mint price and market price of gold, the high prices of commodities imported, and the unfavourable state of the exchanges; and it recommended a more limited issue of paper. He was convinced that the effect of the plan would be to substitute small bills of exchange for promissory notes, thus establishing a more dangerous kind of paper currency than that which exists; while any commercial crisis, pressing upon securities, would induce the Bank to get notes into its hands by whatever means, and would lead to commercial difficulties unprecedented even in 1825 or 1839. A drain of bullion produced by the operation of our corn laws, like that of 1839, might close the banking department of the Bank; and must in fact help repeal of the corn laws. To the establishment of a single bank of issue he had insuperable objections: it would entail all the evils that have been experienced in America.

Mr HASTIE, who seconded the amendment, apprehended the worst consequences from any commercial crisis under the new system—

In December 1838, the bullion in the Bank was £9,000,000; in September 1839, £2,000,000: if with a circulation of £22,000,000, based on £14,000,000 of securities and £8,000,000 of bullion, £7,000,000 were abstracted in nine months, what would be the effect of such a violent collapse?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER remarked, that Mr Hawes's objection was directed against the principle and integrity of the measure, and he had better have moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Sir WILLIAM CLAY heartily, Mr HUME hesitatingly, supported the bill.

Mr WOODHOUSE reluctantly opposed the government, for he regarded the measure as leading to the total removal of the country banks; and Mr NEWDEGATE opposed it as tending to lower prices.

Mr CHARLES BULLER supported Mr Hawes. He maintained that the motion related not to the whole bill, but only to the part concerning the issues of bank paper. Unfortunately, throughout the whole of these debates it had never been distinctly laid down, what was the practical object proposed from this interference with the bank paper. After a disquisition on the meaning of the term money, he continued—By checking the issue of bank notes, you do not check the desire to speculate; you only drive people to a different form of credit. Bank notes form but a very small portion of the whole paper circulation of the country: in 1839, while the bank notes were twenty-six or twenty-seven millions, the amount of bills of exchange was £132,123,000. How is it possible—assuming that you are able to keep down the issues of bank notes—to keep down the amount of bills of exchange? On the contrary, by putting an end to one you tend to multiply the other. Of three millions a day that pass through the clearing houses, £200,000 only is in notes. Over-speculation is not thus to be remedied—it lies deeper than legislation; and of all forms of credit the bank note is the safest. Sir Robert Peel had very liberally borrowed his principle from the Political Economy club; only he chose that upon which the members all disagreed, instead of such as they were all agreed upon, like the repeal of the corn laws.

Mr MASTERMAN supported the bill; but he hoped it would be modified, especially as it bore hard upon the country bankers; and the merely arbitrary limit of £14,000,000 might not answer the purpose required.

Mr WARBURTON thankfully supported the measure, as far as it went.

Mr DABY pleaded for some relaxation of the plan in favour of country bankers.

Mr GISBORNE opposed the bill, because he thought it injudicious to restrain and direct the credit of the country by act of parliament.

The first question was, should everybody who had commercial transactions be permitted to trust whom he would? The negative of that question was the principle of this bill; but he maintained the affirmative of the question. On the point that excess of paper is alleged to depreciate gold, he put forth a curious argument: excess of paper issue does depreciate gold, and in like

manner every form of credit prevents the appreciation of gold, whether it be a bank note or a bill of exchange. Sir Robert Peel had given a clear definition of a "pound"—he should have been glad to hear his definition of "money." It was merely a medium of barter; and, with a perfect form of credit, a gold currency might be altogether dispensed with.

Sir ROBERT PEEL replied to various points raised by different speakers, remarking that all the opponents of the bill seemed to argue for the abandonment of a metallic standard. He was astonished to hear it asserted, in 1844, that under the Bank Restriction act paper was not depreciated. Not depreciated! Is it, then, untrue that prices were not raised during the war; or is it true that the restoration of cash payments made no difference in engagements already contracted? Mr Hawes said gold would have commanded as great quantities of commodities abroad as ever, and he referred to various articles to show that prices had not risen; but what a fallacy it is to attempt to draw any inference from such instances. It had been said that the bank of England might too much restrict the issues; but that is provided against—for if paper were to become of more value than coin, any one could take coin. To prove that the bank can amply supply any want of circulation, Sir Robert referred to several large towns—Birmingham, Gloucester, Manchester, and others—where the local circulation is very small, and the bank supplies nearly the whole. He gave Mr GISBORNE the desired definition of "money"—

By money I meant either the coin of the realm, or that species of paper credit, a promissory note, which, passing from hand to hand, and not requiring any personal guarantee beyond the credit of the issuer, supplies the place of money.

After alluding to the fraudulent misdeeds of some joint-stock banks of issue—one lost its capital (£250,000) and £40,000 more, four months after it declared its profits to be larger than ever—as showing the necessity of interference and control, he referred to the report of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, to prove the effect on prices of an ill-regulated currency: in 1836-7 alone, the loss on capital at Manchester, in cotton, wool, linen, silk, and hardware, was estimated at £40,000,000! He did not expect or desire that the bill would prevent all speculation; but speculation depending on undue issues it would prevent.

In a little more discussion, the measure was supported by Mr WILLIAMS, opposed by Colonel SINTHROP and Mr MUNTZ: Mr PLUMTREE would not obstruct it in that stage.

On a division, at half-past one o'clock in the morning, the numbers were—for Mr Hawes's motion, 30; against it, 185; majority for the bill, 155. It was then read a second time.

Friday, June 14th.

OPENING LETTERS AT THE POST OFFICE.

Mr THOMAS DUNCOMBE presented a petition from W. J. Linton, Joseph Mazzini, and others, resident in London, complaining of the detention and opening of their letters at the General post office, and praying for immediate redress. An objection being made to the precedence thus sought for this subject, Mr Duncombe moved the adjournment of the House, and introduced the matter of the petition in his speech upon that motion.

Mr WALLACE seconded the motion—

When the subject was before the House in 1837, he had several times stated in his place the practice of opening letters in the post office, and no man in the house rose to contradict the statement. He repeated that the practice did still exist. There was a regular living machinery established in a separate room in the post office for the purpose of carrying the system on. He had heard, and had no doubt of the fact, that men were sent from the post office over to the continent to learn under such men as Fouché how to unseal, fold, and reseal letters so as to avoid the chance of detection that they had been opened. Such a system as this was a disgrace to any country, but more so to this, in which we boasted of the confidence which we might repose in those placed at the head of our great institutions. Such a system, he repeated, could not be too soon taken from us. So convinced was he that his own letters to correspondents were opened, that he at last adopted the practice of writing on the outside—"When you have read this letter, please to seal it up and forward it, but do not let it be burnt" ["Hear, hear," and a laugh]. In like manner, many of the writers of letters addressed to him used the same precaution, and wrote on the outside a request that the letters, when read, might not be burnt, but forwarded. He repeated that the objectionable passage read by his hon. friend was introduced in the consolidation of several acts relating to the post office in 1837.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM said, that the Post-office act of 1837, which consolidated previous laws, contained a provision which permitted the secretaries of state to empower the post-office authorities to open letters. Under that power, he had given a warrant, no longer in existence, to open the letters of one of the petitioners, whom he refused to name. [It is understood to be Mr Mazzini.] He declined to render any further explanation.

A debate followed, Mr LABOUCHERE and other members admitting that such a power ought to exist, to be exercised on the responsibility of the home secretary, as he might think expedient, for the safety of the state; and others condemning the practice.

Mr WATSON pointed out the distinction between a particular warrant to open a letter on a particular day, and a general warrant to open all letters addressed to particular individuals. It appeared, from Sir James Graham's explanation, that a particular warrant had been used at the Post office for general purposes; and as this was a serious matter, connected with the liberty of the subject, he hoped that it would be treated as its importance required.

Mr THOMAS DUNCOMBE, seeing that the government refused all explanation of this nefarious transaction, moved the adjournment of the House, but

ultimately allowed the motion to be negatived without a division, intimating his intention of bringing the subject on again on a supply night.

THE SUGAR DUTIES BILL.

The House having resolved itself into a committee on the Sugar Duties bill,

Mr P. MILES rose. He objected to the change proposed by ministers in the old amount of protection, as a measure which was not expedient in itself, and which had not even the merit of being a final settlement. Ministers ought to have taken the whole subject into consideration, so that when it was affected it should be set at rest. An extensive and systematic immigration had been promised, but not effected, and the West Indian colonist would be ruined by the abolition of protection before the completion of the immigration promises could arrive. After entering into some details for the purpose of showing the general depression of the sugar interests, he adverted to the reduction which had been made in the protection upon coffee, and asked what security the planters had, that the small protection now proposed upon sugar would not be in next year still further diminished? He called the attention of the House to the importance of this country's commerce with her West Indian colonies, and to the amount of the shipping employed in it, and contrasted the former prosperity of those regions with their present decay.

He did not exaggerate when he spoke of their distresses. He would read one list of losses on twelve estates in the West Indies, which had been transmitted to one mercantile house in this country. It was made up from the 30th of April, 1843, to the same date in 1844. These were the amounts lost during the year upon the twelve estates:—"The 1st estate, £315 17s. 1d.; 2nd, £2,420 17s.; 3rd, £832 2s.; 4th, £5,083 8s. 2d.; 5th, £3,470 12s.; 6th, £3,444 17s. 5d.; 7th, £8,018 2s. 4d.; 8th, £10,301 8s. 2d.; 9th, £2,255 18s. 9d.; 10th, £442 11s. 9d.; 11th, £478 12s. 6d.; 12th, £770 18s. 5d." In Jamaica, British Guiana, and Trinidad, the price of labour was 3d. to 4d. a day, while in Barbadoes it was only from 2d. to 2½d. per day; and there was also the greatest difficulty in procuring continuous labour. Continuous labour that they could depend on was what the West Indies required. At present, the different prices of labour in different colonies materially affected the value of estates in the different islands. In Jamaica, British Guiana, and Trinidad, the estates were scarcely saleable at any price, while at Barbadoes, while you could not get the price that was paid under the old system, you could yet get a very fair price. His proposition was made with the consent of the West India body, who had that morning agreed to adopt it. The time was approaching when the alteration in the law would affect their interests. The stocks in the country were, he was assured, very low, and it was during the next two months that the greatest consumption took place. The cultivation of West India sugar must be an object to this country, seeing that our exports to the West Indies amounted to £3,000,000. At present the cultivation was very much suspended.

He wished the Chancellor of the Exchequer would pay a visit to his estates in Jamaica, and view a state of things which was the sad spectre of what it once had been. He begged the agriculturists of England to remember that their cause and that of the West Indians was a common one, the difference being only that while the British farmer grew corn, the West Indian farmer grew sugar; and that if the protection to the one description of agriculture should be abandoned, the protection to the other would soon be at an end. He concluded by moving that from the 10th of November next the duty on British colonial sugar should be 20s.; on the sugars of China, Java, and Manilla, 30s., with a duty of 34s. upon the foreign sugars, when imported at a certain degree of refinement; and with an addition, as usual, of 5 per cent. upon the whole.

Mr H. BAILLIE seconded the motion. He described the measure of the government as causing general dissatisfaction. It violated the principle of refusing encouragement to the foreign slave trade, and yet it gave but very partial advantages to the British people.

Mr EWART was adverse to the general principle of protection, and considered the differential scale proposed by this amendment as even more objectionable than that of the government.

Mr GOULBURN said that the amendment, going, as it did, to the question of degree and not to that of principle, was open to the very same objections which the mover and seconder had advanced against the government scale. He regretted that his attempt to combine the welfare of the consumers with the just protection of the planters had not been more favourably received by some of his own friends; but he had acted on a sense of duty, and he sincerely believed that the moderate scale he had proposed was more for the ultimate advantage of the planters themselves than the scale suggested in this amendment.

Mr LABOUCHERE thought that, instead of postponing the question of the income tax till next session, the government should have brought it on in conjunction with this question of the sugar duties for the present year. He himself should support Mr Miles's amendment, because it involved a reduction of duty, though not precisely in the figures he should most have approved. This amendment might be considered as it affected the consumer, the planter, and the revenue. If the government bill was a mere scheme for a single year, to bolster up the revenue till next session, never was a great interest so ill-treated as were the planters by the government, and he therefore concluded that this was not the view, but that the measure was intended as part of a permanent arrangement. He believed the reduction of duty proposed in the amendment would bring in for the use of the British public the slave-grown as well as the free-grown sugar; for he regarded the alleged security of certificates of origin

as an utter nullity; and, consequently, he viewed the amendment as favourable to the British consumer:—

In what a position would he not place our unfortunate consuls abroad. Look at the condition of the poor consul at New Orleans. What a quantity of hard swearing he would have to regulate [hear, hear]. Then, too, what eternal turmoil such a system must produce at home! A sugar ship came from New Orleans: the certificate was not considered satisfactory, and the duty on slave labour sugar was ordered to be levied. No sooner did the American minister hear the fact, than down he went to the Foreign office, and insisted, upon the faith of treaties, that, as the certificates were duly attested, only a free labour duty should be imposed. Why, it was only a few years ago that the right hon. gentleman himself refused, upon the subject of the rum duties, to take the certificate of an officer of the East India company, on the ground that such an officer was not the officer of the state. Now, he proposed to admit the certificate of foreign officers merely with the *visé* of an unfortunate consul. How hollow and delusive was all such scheming as this [loud cries of "Hear"]!

Mr GOSDON opposed, Mr BERNAL supported, the amendment.

Mr BOUVERIE, seeing that the amendment would create a differential duty of 14s. on the white clayed sugars of Java and Manilla, could not consent to give an additional bonus to the West Indian interest of four shillings, which must come out of the pockets of the community, and be a direct loss to the revenue. All the sufferings of the West Indies had their origin in a system of protection, and it would be worth while trying what free trade would do for them.

Mr BARING contrasted the amount of protection which his budget in 1841 would have left to the West Indies, with that now given by the government—his was 12s.; Sir Robert Peel's is 10s., "and a shadow." After commenting on the government scheme, and censuring them for disturbing the market by a premature intimation of a change next year, he said that the difference between it and Mr Miles's proposition would only cause a loss of two hundred thousand pounds to the revenue, while the advantage to the community from the latter would be much greater than the former, and therefore he would support the amendment.

Mr GLADSTONE said there had been different courses for the government to consider. The first was to make a final settlement of the sugar duties; but that was feasible only in conjunction with a settlement of the income-tax and of other matters which could not be arranged until next year. Another was the removal of the existing sugar duties; but that was not feasible with reference to the just expectations of the consumers and the great recent increase of demand. He was happy, however, to find that the prospects of supply from the West Indies had considerably improved since this measure was brought in, a few weeks ago. The government were reproached with having left the duties in uncertainty; but there was no more uncertainty than had always attached to this subject, which had at no time been regulated by any permanent measure, but always dealt with from year to year. Beyond a year the West Indians could at no time calculate upon their monopoly. He proceeded at some length to argue against Mr Miles's amendment.

Mr MILNER GIBSON was at first disposed to support the amendment, but had found reason to alter his opinion:—

Upon taking up the votes this morning he found a passage in the notice of the hon. member for Bristol to this effect—"that white-clayed sugar, or sugar otherwise prepared, and equivalent to white-clayed sugar, should be subjected to a duty of 34s." He (Mr Gibson) thought something must be meant by this; and he went into the city to get the best information he could on the subject. He applied to persons of great experience in the sugar trade; and one gentleman said to him, "Why, are you not awake to the trap that has been laid for the free traders by the West India monopolists in introducing this distinction between white-clayed sugar and brown Muscovado sugar?" He was informed that, in point of fact, if the proposition of the hon. member for Bristol became law, the duty of 34s. would practically be applied to three-fourths of all the free-labour foreign sugar that could be introduced into this country under the proposition of the government. He must be excused, therefore, if he looked at this proposal with some suspicion. He believed that, if the proposal of the hon. member for Bristol should be carried, the West India colonists would give them sugar the price of Java and Siam sugar, plus the 4s. duty; and upon that they would only have to pay 20s. to the exchequer. But if the government plan were adopted, they would have to pay 24s. to the exchequer. He therefore believed that the proposal of the hon. member for Bristol was intended, instead of benefiting the consumer, to transfer 4s. per cwt. into the pocket of the West India proprietor.

Mr HUME desired Mr Gibson to observe that the reduction of duty on sugars in general, proposed in the amendment, would much more than compensate the extra 4s. on the refined sugar.

After a few words from Messrs. Colquhoun, Escott, Collett and Hampden,

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said he preferred the proposal of Mr Miles to that of the government. He did not think Mr Miles gained much by that part of his plan which imposed the 34s. on the more refined sugars; but, on the whole, his plan was the better of the two for the consumer.

Mr H. BERKELEY asked whether Mr Miles would drop the clause respecting the 34s.?

Mr MILES, after noticing some other points of the debate, declined to make the suggested alteration in his motion.

Mr RICARDO proposed an alteration in the form of Mr Miles's motion.

Lord HOWICK explained that all who disapproved of the government plan might join to oppose it; and that when it should thus have been negatived, each

member who had so voted would be quite unpledged respecting the motion to be substituted.

The committee then divided—

Against the government plan	241
For it	221
Majority against ministers	—20

The committee then adjourned to Monday.

Monday, June 17.

THE SUGAR DUTIES.

The House having resolved itself into committee on the sugar duties,

Sir ROBERT PEEL said, he rose to put the House in possession of the course which the government now intended to pursue. It had been contended that the whole consideration of the country's finance, including the sugar duties, should have been brought before the House in the present session. The government, however, had thought it best to wait till there should have been further experience of the general working of the reductions in the import duties. They had considered also that there were two other subjects to be submitted to parliament—namely, the reduction of the three and-a-half per cents, and the renewal of the Bank Charter, the results of which it was desirable to see before the income tax should be brought under review. Probably it would have been thought by parliament that some modification of the sugar duties ought to accompany a renewal of the income tax; but then the great slave country of Brazil would have been entitled until November to share in the benefit of that modification. The government, however, had thought it indispensable, seeing the indications of a probable failure in the supply of sugar, to do something in the present year respecting that article, the only one on which there was now anything like a monopoly [murmurs of "Corn"]. No: as to corn, there was so far from being a monopoly, that nearly three millions of duties had been levied upon it. They had another reason for promoting the subject of sugar in the present year, which was the advantage of letting the capitalists of the free-labour countries be early aware of the intentions of parliament in their favour. They had, therefore, proposed a 20s. duty on British, and 34s. on foreign free-grown sugar, which arrangement they believed would be beneficial not only to the general interests, but even to the West Indians. Lord John Russell had proposed the admission of slave sugar on the same footing with free. That was negatived on a division. Then came the proposal of Mr Miles for a 20s. duty on British, with a 30s. duty on foreign sugar, and an additional 4s. in respect of sugar in a certain state of refinement. The proposal of government having been negatived by the House, the government had reconsidered the subject, and now felt it necessary to adhere to their own measure. They considered that the consumer would not be benefited; that the West Indians would not be protected; and that the revenue would be seriously injured. They considered that during the approaching season for preserving fruits, and making British wines, there would be, if Mr Miles's motion were adopted, an increase of price, from the contraction of supply consequent on the unwillingness of the wholesale dealers to lay in any stocks until the commencement of the period of reduced duty. Under these circumstances, the government could not consent to escape from their present difficulties by attempting to give increased protection to West Indian sugar. If he could not support Mr Miles's motion on its own merits, still less could he support it on political grounds:—

We cannot assent, therefore, to the proposal of my hon. friend, because we entertain a decided preference for our own measure, upon re-consideration; and we do not think his proposition ought to receive the assent of the House upon its merits [hear, hear]. But, sir, I admit, differing as we do from my hon. friend upon the merits of his measure, in a commercial point of view—I do not hesitate to admit that upon political grounds I cannot, on the part of the government, consent to adopt it [here the House assumed an attitude of the deepest attention, and the most entire stillness ensued]. Some of those, too, who supported my hon. friend said there was no material difference between the proposal he made and that made by the government—that he proposed, in respect of most classes of sugar, the same amount of protective duty—and that, therefore, we might without difficulty have assented to his amendment. Sir, if it be a matter of unimportance, we cannot consent to concede to the proposition [the right hon. baronet pronounced this with more than usual emphasis, and proceeded, after a pause, in a tone forcibly expressive of wounded feeling]. It was carried by a combination of those who are our general supporters with our political opponents [cheers from some of the ministerialists]. If the measure, I repeat, be an unimportant one, in proportion to its unimportance is it significant of a want of confidence in our administration [loud cries of "Hear, hear," from all parts of the house]. If you can effect a great public object, that is a reason for proposing an alteration in the plan of the government; but if you cannot effect any important object—if there be no great difference in the value of the two propositions, then I say the concurrence between our political opponents and our political friends has a bearing on our position as the executive government of this empire [these words, uttered with great energy, elicited renewed cries of "Hear, hear," from all parts of the house]. It does, in our opinion, diminish our means of resistance (as we understood the expression); and if acquiesced in by us, it would be an encouragement of similar combinations [ironical cries of "Hear"]. I do not believe, sir—I cannot believe, that the concurrence in that vote was a casual occurrence arising out of our debates on the subject [hear]. I may be wrong, but my impression is that it was a preconcerted arrangement [cries of "No, no,"] between some of those who oppose and some of those who support us. When my hon. friend—of course a word from him would be sufficient to destroy this delusion in my mind, if delusion it be, but I will tell him why I believe the vote was the result of a concert between some of those who support and some of those who oppose us—I am not

complaining. (Some ironical cheers and laughter, on account of Sir Robert's manner being marked with more of bitterness than he acknowledged. The right hon. baronet, apparently annoyed, proceeded with elevated voice). No, but I have a right to observe upon such a combination ["Hear, hear," from a portion of the ministerialists]. I do not deny the right of hon. gentlemen, if they think fit, to enter into such combination. I do not condescend (so we understood the right hon. baronet, who, through agitation, was somewhat less distinct than usual)—I do not condescend to deprecate them [hear, hear]; but I think I have a right to consider what bearing the result has upon the position of the government [hear, hear], when I am determining whether I will acquiesce in an unimportant proposition, as an amendment to the plan of the government, carried by a combination such as I have alluded to. I am not, I repeat, denying the right of the two parties so to combine. Into that I enter not. But I claim for myself the right—and (exclaimed the right hon. gentleman with considerable elevation of tone) I mean to exercise it!—the right of determining what effect, upon my position as a minister of the crown, my acquiescence in the arrangement proposed would produce [hear, hear]. Sir, when my hon. friend originally gave notice of his amendment, it was to this effect—that he should propose a reduction of duty on British colonial sugar, to the amount of 20s. My hon. friend indicated no intention at that time, to reduce the duty on foreign sugar from 34s. to 30s.; consequently, the amount of his protection on all sugars was to have been 14s. He then makes a motion for a protection only of 10s. The hon. gentleman (my "hon. friend," added the right hon. baronet, correcting himself), on a subsequent period, said, he had found the West Indian interest, "alarmed at his indicating" the amount of protection he thought sufficient, had quarrelled with him for not taking up a higher amount of protection, and that he, fearing the opinion might be afterwards quoted against them, had altered his plan, making a greater distinction in his discriminating duties. Now, my hon. friend in this was quite mistaken. [The right hon. baronet, who had spoken the foregoing sentences with an ironical expression, went on in a tone severely sarcastic.] My hon. friend might have found that nothing could have been more easy for him than to have suited the views of his supporters—yet adhered to his original proposition of establishing a protection of 14s. In perfect conformity with the orders of the house, with no probability of his being checked, Sir, by your vigilance, he might have contrived so to have shaped his motion that he might have established his protection to the amount of 14s., and thus have avoided the risk of embarrassment of which he professed such apprehension. But my hon. friend, being invited to state whether he could make any relaxation in that part of his proposal which referred to the duty on "white clayed" sugar, I think intimated that he was not prepared to exercise any discretion on the subject, and that he was determined to adhere to the diminished duty of 10s. on the one hand, and the increased protection of 14s. on the other. Sir, I am not inclined, I hope [here the right hon. baronet hesitated somewhat, seemingly from the difficulty of suppressing his feelings], to be mortified, or to complain of the language used in the course of debates, with respect to us who, as ministers, have to endure with silence, if not with patience, the harshest expressions. I cannot, however, altogether forget the terms in which my hon. friends, the mover and seconder of the amendment, recommended it to the consideration of the House. Without feeling the slightest temper [a slight disposition to laugh appeared to be created by the anxiety the right hon. gentleman showed to disavow any of that bitterness of feeling which his tone could not disguise], I am only remarking on the bearing which the proceedings have upon the position of the government.

After continuing in this strain for some time longer, Sir Robert Peel said that under the circumstances of the case, the course which the government would now take, and on which all members would be free who had not engaged themselves to vote for Mr Miles's 20s., would be to propose, as an amendment on Mr Miles's proposal, that 24s. should be the duty. They wished it to be known in the countries east of the Cape what the future intentions of parliament were. After explaining the reasons why he did not content himself with merely proposing a renewal of the present sugar duties, he said that he could not be insensible to the impediments which had been opposed to the progress of ministerial legislation. In certain of these measures the government had failed to obtain the approbation of some whose support they most valued. He could not profess they were prepared to purchase that approbation at the price of refraining from the policy which they deemed essential to the welfare of the country. They had felt it necessary to make relaxations of duties; in that course they held it their duty to persevere; and he was anxious that on so important an occasion, there should be no deception and no reserve.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said the proposal of Sir R. PEEL was neither more nor less than that the House should retract its former vote, and disgrace itself with the country. For his own part, as he had not been one of the general supporters of the government, he was not much moved by their threats of quitting office.

I must say that it is not for me to estimate the value of the right hon. gentleman's continuance at the head of the administration, but much harder terms have never been proposed to the House of Commons than the right hon. gentleman proposes [laughter and cheers]. It appears to me that, according to the proposition of the right hon. gentleman, there is no measure of government, no measure of finance, no measure of legislation, upon which he is not prepared to say, "Let us as a government make our propositions; it is your duty to acquiesce at once [loud cheers from both sides of the house]. And if, when the sense of the House is taken upon any independent question affecting the interests of the country, you come to a different conclusion from that to which I have arrived, I will ask you then to retract your vote, and deny that which you have affirmed, and exhibit yourselves to the country as a debased and slavish assembly" [repeated cheers on both sides]. That, and no other, as I understand, is the proposition of the right hon. gentleman; and it is a proposition to which I for one am not prepared to agree. But I am not one of

those who have been general supporters of the government [laughter]. I have not that distinction. It is not, therefore, likely that I should be compelled by that threat to change my course upon this subject [cheers]. It is for those who have been the supporters of the government to consider whether they meant, in giving their support, that all free will upon every subject whatever was surrendered to the right hon. gentleman [cheers]; and be it remembered—because, as he has touched upon these topics, I have a right to follow him upon them—surrendered not according to any known principles to which they had assented when they voted to place him in office, but according to principles which in many respects are the reverse of those they expected [cheers].

The Right Hon. Baronet told them that if he did not now carry his point, he should be subject to a repetition of his difficulty. The House, on the other hand, might be sure that if they gave him the victory now, they would henceforth be wholly in his hands.

Mr P. MILES said that the West Indians had repeatedly pressed the government to postpone this measure until a supply of free labour should have placed them in a better state for competition; but the government having refused to listen to them, they had no choice but to propose this measure for their own protection. In it he should persevere, and upon it he should take the sense of the House. As to the refined sugar, he should have no objection, on the part of the West Indians, to subject the colonial to the same duty as the foreign; but the East Indians objected to that; and he, therefore, could not consent to change his motion.

After a few words from Mr Cochrane, Mr Kemble, Sir H. Douglas and Mr Warburton,

Mr LABOUCHERE urged that the House would be lowered in the estimation of the country if it pursued the course proposed to it by Sir Robert Peel. It the amendment were adopted, he would propose the adoption of a similar distinction between the refined and unrefined in our colonial sugars as in foreign.

Mr D'ISRAELI made a bitter attack on government:—

About a month ago this House was called on to rescind a resolution on a subject most important to its character, and of the deepest interest to the great body of the nation; and, for the first time since the malt tax vote, this House submitted to that process, which was previously regarded with so much distrust, and only submitted to from such overbearing necessity [loud cheers]. I cannot help thinking, sir, that some mysterious influence must be at work to place us, within a month, in precisely the same position, and to put us before the country under circumstances which, I believe, no one in this house, be he on this side or the opposition side, can describe as other than degrading to us all [loud and repeated cheers]. It may be that the right hon. gentleman will retain power by subjecting us to this stern process; but I mistake the right honourable gentleman's character if I were to suppose that he could greatly value a power which is only to be retained by means so unconstitutional [cheers]. I think that the right hon. gentleman should deign to consult a little more the feelings of his supporters. I do not think he ought to drag them unreasonably through the mire [a laugh]. He has already once this session made them repeal a solemn decision at which they had arrived, and now he comes down again and says, unless you rescind another important resolution, I will no longer take upon myself the responsibility of conducting affairs. Now, I really think to rescind one vote during the session is enough [laughter]. I don't think in reason we ought to be called on to endure this degradation more than once a year [laughter]. That should be managed [laughter]. The right hon. baronet should introduce some parliamentary tariff for the regulation of our disapproval. The government ought to tell us to what point we might go—thus far and no farther: there are the bounds within which you are to enjoy your parliamentary independence; but the moment you pass them you must submit to public disgrace, or we must submit to private life [loud cheering]. Now, this is not the most agreeable way of conducting the affairs of the country; it is not the most constitutional [cheers]. I remember in 1841, when the right hon. baronet supported the motion of the noble lord the member for Liverpool, he used these words, he said, "I have never joined in the anti-slavery cry; and now I will not join the cry of cheap sugar." Two years have elapsed, and the right hon. gentleman has joined in the anti-slavery cry, and has adopted the cry of cheap sugar [hear, hear]. But it seems that the right hon. baronet's horror of slavery extends to every place except the benches behind him [loud cheers]. There the gang is still assembled, and there the thong of the whip still sounds [loud and continued cheers]. Whatever may be the anti-slavery repugnance of the right hon. gentleman, his distaste would seem not to extend to this House [cheers]. If the whip were less sparing here, his conduct would be more consistent with his professions [cheers].

A discussion followed, shared in by Lord SANDON, Mr SHEL, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, Mr M. P. STEWART, Mr ENTWISTLE (who in this, his first speech, regretted that he should so early have been compelled to vote against the government, but at the same time would not commit himself to those in whose hands protection would not be safe for a single year), Mr ESCOTT, who lectured the "factious," Mr WILLIAM MILES, who retorted on Mr Escott that the supporters of the amendment of Mr Philip Miles would not measure their corn by the Winchester bushel, and

Lord Howick, who advocated the amendment, with a proviso that either the extra duty on white clayed should be abrogated, or a similar distinction be introduced into colonial sugars; and urged that if Sir R. Peel's principle were carried out, the House might save itself a vast deal of trouble by voting at the commencement of each session, their unqualified confidence in the government. But those who took upon themselves the responsibility of accepting office

all their difficulties, and the government could put an end to them by ceasing to halt between two opinions, and taking a decided line.

Lord STANLEY, after defending the government proposition, said that it was part of a great financial scheme, the propounding of which would take place next year, if the House would leave the management of affairs in their hands; and this scheme would secure permanently due protection to the West Indies.

Lord PALMERSTON, after speaking to the general question, made a few remarks on the conduct of ministers. It was a question of personal honour weighed against a threat of resignation, which could not, and would not, be carried into execution. The government could not be in earnest when it said that it had lost the confidence of the House; for if a vote of want of confidence in ministers were to be proposed to-morrow, it would be negated by a majority of 90 or 100.

Mr STAFFORD O'BRIEN desired, as an agriculturist, to thank Lord Stanley for his reply upon Lord Howick, and to assure the latter that, whatever disappointment the agriculturists might feel, they would not lend themselves to him or his opinions.

Colonel SMITHORP energetically supported the government.

Mr M. GIBSON maintained the opinions which he had expressed on Friday night. The measure of the government was the more liberal of the two, and should have his vote.

The noble lord invited the House to co-operate with the opponents of free trade, but he (Mr Gibson) could not bring himself to believe that those hon. members who complained of the right hon. gentleman opposite, for admitting foreign sugar into competition with their own, would think for one moment of admitting still more foreign sugar. They told him, indeed, that they had no confidence in him, because he exposed them to competition, and then said they, "In our own defence we will admit a greater quantity of foreign sugar than you do" [ironical cheers]. He did not believe that they entertained any such object. He believed that there would be a larger measure of protection afforded by this bill. They asked for a differential duty of 14s. instead of 10s. [groans]. He would be most happy to vote with the noble lord the member for the city of London (a burst of ironical cheers and groaning from the opposition benches), and there was no person could be more anxious than himself to support that noble lord (renewed groaning, and cries of "Oh! oh!"); but the present question was not a vote of confidence in the government, but was a matter at issue between them and the leaders of the West India interests. It had been stated, on a recent occasion, by the noble lord the member for the city of London, that, when he (Mr Gibson) asserted that the duty of 34s. on plain clayed sugars would apply to a large proportion of the foreign sugar available under the present bill, he was not correct. Now, he could not have made that assertion of his own knowledge on the subject, because he was not at all conversant with sugar making or refining, but had done so on such authorities as lay within his reach, and he would now take the liberty, in his own justification, of reading some letters. (This announcement was interrupted by an unanimous outcry of "No, no," and a volley of groans, which seemed to astonish and irritate the hon. member considerably. When some degree of order was restored, the hon. gentleman proceeded to say, with much emphasis, that he did feel that where a member's accuracy was attacked he was entitled to justify himself, and that he would insist upon being heard, or he would move that the chairman should report progress [renewed groaning, mingled with shouts of "Read, read," which the hon. member was after some delay enabled to comply with, and proceeded to read a letter from Mr Peter Martineau, whom he described as a firm supporter of the principles of the noble lord the member for the city of London, and well known in the sugar trade, in which the writer states his conviction, that for a very large proportion of free labour sugar, the public would have to pay a much higher per centage, if the amendment were carried, than was levied under the minister's bill]. The next letter, the hon. member continued, is from another gentleman of opposite principles to Mr Martineau. And what does he say? Why, he says, "My dear Sir" [roars of laughter from all parts of the house prevented the hon. member proceeding for some moments, which he at length did, with considerable less emphasis on the above words]. The hon. member proceeded to say, that he must, with the utmost respect for the noble lord, call upon him not to throw any taunt upon him (Mr Gibson), or his friends, for acting inconsistently on the present occasion [loud groans], for they were merely anxious to procure the best measure within their reach, and, in taking that course, they had not been actuated by any desire to throw themselves into opposition to the noble lord [derisive cheering, and loud groans, amid which the hon. member resumed his seat].

Mr ROXBURGH would vote with the West Indians in order to benefit the consumer. He should be sorry to see the government go out, but his duty was to look to the consumer. He amused the House with some sarcasms upon Mr D'Israeli's philosophy. The committee then divided—

Against Mr Miles's proposal	255
For it	233
Majority against it	—22

The blank was then filled up with the 24s. proposed by ministers.

[It will seen by a reference to Friday's division, that the vote of that evening was rescinded last night by nearly the same majority; the division on the former evening exhibiting a majority of twenty against ministers, and that of yesterday a majority of twenty-two in their favour.]

MISCELLANEOUS.

INCENDIARISM.—On Wednesday evening Mr Milner Gibson called attention to the alarming increase of incendiarism in Suffolk, Norfolk, and parts of Essex. He was a magistrate for the county of Suffolk, and he believed, from inquiries he had made, that the labouring classes were well disposed, and would shrink with horror from such atrocious

crimes. The gentry acted with kindness, and were desirous of ameliorating the condition of the poor. Notwithstanding this the crime was increasing to a most alarming extent. Sir James Graham said that Mr Gibson had correctly described the conduct and character both of the gentry and the labouring classes in Suffolk, and yet incendiarism was increasing in it and the adjoining counties. The government were directing their serious attention to this painful subject, and had been in communication with the lord-lieutenants and the magistrates, and every exertion would be made to discover the offenders. Mr M. Gibson then asked if the government were of opinion that these crimes originated in the distresses of the agricultural poor, or arose from some concealed cause? Sir James Graham replied, that the result of the fullest inquiries showed that the peasantry were quiet, and well-disposed, and were not implicated in these offences.

On Tuesday last, the new Solicitor-general introduced a bill for the disfranchisement of Sudbury.

KILMARNOCK ELECTION.—A petition from Mr Prinsep, was last week presented against Mr Bouverie's return, but was on Monday night abandoned.

GREENWICH PARK.—In reply to Mr Hawes, on Monday evening, the Earl of Lincoln explained what alterations were likely to be made in this park:—There was some land which belonged to the Admiralty adjoining the park, and an arrangement was contemplated with a view of giving increased accommodation to the Royal Hospital. The commissioners of woods and forests have been prevailed upon to enclose a portion of the park as gardens, opposite certain residences, receiving therefor some land adjoining the park in another place. The park would thus continue the same in extent.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.—Sir R. PEEL said he proposed to proceed with the Dissenters' Chapels bill and the Sugar Duties bill on Thursday, and to take the Bank Charter bill on Friday.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, June 13th.

IMPORT DUTIES.

Lord MONTEAGLE drew attention to the whole subject of import duties, moving for a select committee to inquire into the effects of the duties at present existing, on the commerce, revenue, and general prosperity of the country. As precedents to justify his motion, he instanced the committee to inquire into our foreign trade obtained by the Marquis of Lansdowne in 1820, and by Mr Hume on import duties in 1839. The present time is favourable for revision. As the income tax will evidently be maintained for the full five years, it will most likely in that period produce £28,000,000, instead of the estimated £11,000,000; and thus there will be a large surplus revenue. Such a revision is absolutely necessary to develop the wealth and prosperity of the country—the comfort, and therefore the moral and intellectual improvement, of the people.

The first object of his committee would be to ascertain how far the declared intention of government had been carried out. How had it been with respect to the duty upon raw materials? The duty on cotton is eight per cent upon the raw material—that is, a duty was imposed to this extent upon the weight of the raw material sent from abroad for the employment of our cotton trade; and we export it in a manufactured state abroad, in the shape of yarn or other goods; and the price to the foreign consumer includes the duty upon the raw material we first imposed, without any drawback at all: a departure from the avowed principles, which alone would justify the inquiry. Great advances in the right direction have recently been made, especially in the total removal of the duties on both foreign and colonial wool, and in the reduction of the discriminating duties on coffee and cocoa; but a fair inquiry would enable the legislature to apply similar principles to other important articles.

Lord Monteaule collected a great number of facts to show the ill working of protective systems in all parts of the world. France is estimated to lose by smuggling £3,000,000 a year. The quantity of silk goods entered in France for exportation to England has been stated at 3,500,000 pounds a year; while the quantity on which duty was paid in this country was only 1,875,000 pounds. The discriminating duties on Irish wool and cattle produced wounds still unhealed; and the two factions of the Anti-corn-law League and Agricultural Protection Society are the offspring of misplaced protection. In the United States, importation was practically free from 1789 to 1807, and the consumption per head of the population was more than sixteen dollars; in 1816 the protective system was introduced into that country and completed in 1828, and in 1830 the consumption per head was but four dollars. This was followed by the Compromise act and "nullification," dissension between the northern and southern states, and continually decreasing importation of manufactured goods.

The Earl of DALHOUSIE complimented Lord Monteaule on the ability of his speech; and agreed with his principles, but dissented from his proposal. He denied that the precedents applied; for in 1820, after a long war, in which this country monopolised the trade of the world, and duties were heaped upon duties without arrangement or principle, inquiry was loudly called for; and in 1839 the mere lapse of time recommended a new revision.

But only two years have elapsed since our whole commercial system was revised; and as the public would expect inquiry to be followed by practical results, the greatest disturbance in trade and commerce would be induced, and that to at a time when commerce is recovering from depressions and disturbance. As to the surplus revenue, it arises from the income-tax, and fortuitous monies from China and elsewhere; and how would the public excuse government, if a large portion of revenue were given away on the presumption that the income-tax would be continued? Lord Monteaule rightly quoted Sir Robert Peel's principles; but he omitted the qualification which accompanied them, that he was bound in the first instance



to remove those duties which involved the greatest pressure. He referred to what government had lately done. They had effected important relaxations; in 1842 removing duties to the extent of £1,200,000, and this year £450,000, including the abolition of the wool-duties. He hoped the House would place confidence in government, and give a fair trial to their experiment.

The Earl of CLARENDON followed up Lord Montague's arguments with others to the same effect; complimenting Lord Dalhousie on the ability of his speech, and gathering that he spoke against his convictions in not going further.

Lord COLCHESTER appealed to the protective duties of twenty and thirty per cent which have caused the prosperity of our cotton and silk manufactures, and argued against dependence on foreigners instead of our colonies, as pleas for discriminating duties.

The Duke of RICHMOND was surprised to hear the agriculturists described as having it all their own way, when no interest is so much neglected or so taxed. He would have voted for the motion in order to an inquiry into the special burdens on land, only that would seem to countenance Lord Montague's free trade arguments. Free trade means reduction of wages, and to that he objected. He would not lessen the existing protection, but would protect all alike, manufacturers and all, to the extent of their burdens of taxation. He heard with regret the speech of Lord Dalhousie; who, with his great ideas of free trade, would perhaps repeal the malt-duty. The Duke, however, confessed that he hardly agreed with any one in that House except Lord Colchester, though he believed he was supported by a great majority in the country.

The Earl of WICKLOW concurred in almost all Lord Montague's views, but could not support the motion.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE advocated the inquiry; rendered doubly necessary by the commercial rivalry into which foreign nations, like Prussia, have engaged, in imitation of our own prohibitive policy.

The Earl of WINCHELSEA considered free trade incompatible with our artificial state of society and the hostile commercial policy of foreign countries.

The House divided: contents, 75; non-contents, 184; majority against Lord Montague's motion, 109.

Friday, June 14th.

The Bishop of EXETER moved the second reading of his Suppression of Brothels bill; prefacing it with a speech, in which he referred in detail to the greatness of the evil it was designed to check.

Earl FITZHARDINGE gave the Dean and Chapter of Westminster a severe castigation.

Little more than two years ago it had been publicly stated that the notorious brothels, the property of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, were most numerous just about the Almonry, a place he (Earl Fitzhardinge) did not know [laughter]; that there were in the Almonry twenty-four notorious brothels, all the property of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster [loud laughter], being in the proportion of two brothels to a prebend [much laughter, which continued for some time]; that in the Orchard street district there were thirty brothels; in Pye street district, forty brothels; in York street district, twenty brothels; most of which were the property of the Dean and the members of the chapter in their corporate capacity [laughter]. Now he thought that, in the fair exercise of the right of property, they might have done something before recourse was had to legislative enactments [hear, hear]. He was the more inclined to refer to that statement (which had appeared about December, 1841, in the newspapers), because the Dean and Chapter had shown very little consistency. He recollected that this very same body, the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, had refused a place in Westminster abbey, on the score of morality and religion, to the statue of Lord Byron; and he said it was a gross inconsistency to reject the one whilst they were maintaining the other [hear, hear]. He feared it might be said that they

"Compound for sins they are inclined to,
By damning those they have no mind to" [laughter].

The Bishop of GLOUCESTER defended the Dean and Chapter, asserting that they had no power over the keepers of these houses, but that they had bought up some of the leases, and pulled down the premises.

Lord BROUGHAM blamed them for continuing to exclude the statue of Byron by Thorswalsden. The Bishop of LONDON justified the Dean and Chapter for excluding the statue.

A conversation then ensued on the relative morality of Byron and Shakspeare, Shakspeare's monument having been admitted into the abbey. The Bishop of Exeter suggested a national gallery for monuments to public men, instead of placing them in churches.

The bill was ultimately read a second time, and after some other business the House adjourned.

PUBLIC PETITIONS.—The 29th report of the committee on public petitions has just made its appearance. We find the gross total number of petitions to the House of Commons on various important public measures to be as follows, viz.:—Against the Dissenters' Chapels bill, 2,403 petitions, signed by no less than 290,496 persons; in favour of the same bill, 601 petitions, signed by 136,644 persons; for an alteration of the measure, 864 petitioners; legalising marriages in Ireland by presbyterian ministers, 412 petitions, signed by 159,246 persons; against the union of the episcopal diocese of Bangor and St Asaph, 274 petitions, signed by 15,613 persons; for a repeal of the differential duties on sugar, four petitions, signed by 66,434 persons.

Mr Sharman Crawford was unavoidably absent from the division on Mr Ward's motion, in consequence of alarming illness in his family, which obliged him to go to Ireland.

Thursday, the 4th of July, has been fixed upon as the day for prosecuting the writ of error in the House of Lords, in the case of the late state trials in Dublin.

THE POLISH BALL.—Twelve hundred tickets were disposed of, and the company exceeded 1,000 persons. There has been a statement in circulation, that the Emperor of Russia sent £500 for a ticket. It is true that his Imperial Majesty offered a munificent donation, but the association could not consistently accept the bounty. The offer was declined, the society preferring to be dependent on public rather than private generosity.

Postscript.

Wednesday, June 19, 1844.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Forty members not being present at four o'clock, the House of Commons did not sit last night.

In the House of Lords, Lord WHARNcliffe brought in a bill to divide the parish of Leeds into several parishes for spiritual purposes, which, after a few words from the Bishop of RYON in approbation of the measure, was read a first time.

INCENDIARY FIRES.—The Earl of STRADROKE, in presenting a petition from Suffolk complaining of the incendiary fires that have lately taken place so extensively in that county, and praying the house to take the subject into its immediate consideration, observed that a new feature about these outrages was, that they were not confined to the night time, but took place in broad daylight, and even during the performance of divine service. It appeared to him that the law on the subject was not sufficiently stringent, or not sufficiently carried out. Lord DENMAN said that in a number of cases where outhouses had been fired, doubts had been entertained whether they could be considered as part of the dwelling-house, and the offenders had of course the benefit of the doubt. It appeared to him desirable that a short measure should be passed clearing up such doubts, and leaving no question as to what class of offences the setting fire to outhouses, and also to standing corn, belonged [hear, hear].

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.—The debate and division on Friday night is the subject of much discussion in the daily journals of this morning, and whig and tory are agreed in falling foul of the Premier. The *Times* attacks Sir Robert Peel with great bitterness, for his "tragical remonstrances" to his supporters on Monday night:—

Sir Robert acts like a premier, and affects to talk like a friend. Will he just attempt to think and feel as a friend for one moment, while we beg to suggest the following topics of meditation? He talks in heartrending terms of a measure "carried by a combination of those who are our general supporters with our political opponents." Does he not regularly lay himself out for the support of "political opponents?" Does he ever fail to overawe his "general supporters," whenever need be, with some whig contingent, which he is always able and ready to purchase at the expense of those "general supporters." Every conservative knows that the moment he ventures to think for himself, he may expect to find the whigs on his flank.

The article concludes with the following pithy sentiment:—

A man must have a wonderful power of sponging conscience and memory who can act as Sir Robert has never failed to do when convenient, and yet can talk as he did on Monday evening.

The *Chronicle*, with affected moderation, gives a stab at the anti-corn-law members, exclaiming, in the bitterness of its disappointment:—

But it has not come without putting the Corn-law Cabinet under obligations to the Anti-corn-law League. It has exhibited a tory cabinet under the shelter of parties with whom they were supposed to have the greatest differences—the friends of agriculture under the wing of Lord Radnor's son; and, as if the genius of retribution required still greater sacrifices, the sliding-scale sustained under the ample agis of Mr Cobden.

How doleful does the following sentence read, after the purlieus of Downing street had once more become revealed to whig optics:—

The ministers on Monday had a majority of 22. In that number there appear the names of eleven or twelve gentlemen of liberal politics, more or less connected with the League, and some of them the leaders of that great confederacy. It is clear, therefore, that if these gentlemen had voted with their own side of the House, the minister would have either been stale-mated by a tie, or have found himself in a minority of two—and that divers transactions would have taken place yesterday which we need not now go into. There would have been journeys to and from the palace—joy and consternation at the Carlton; Lord Spencer, or Lord Melbourne according to some versions, according to others the Duke of Richmond, sent for; and, in a week or ten days from this time, it would be obvious to all men how easily the world could go on without Sir R. Peel, or how much better he would carry out free-trade principles with a re-constituted cabinet.

The following thirteen are the free-trade members who voted with ministers on Monday night:—

Bouverie, Hon. E. P.	James, W.
Cobden, R.	Marsland, H.
Ellice, W.	Paget, Lord W.
Forster, M.	Ricardo, J. L.
Gibson, M.	Thorneley, T.
Hayter, W. G.	Warburton, H.
Humphrey, Alderman	

The four following voted with Mr Miles on Friday night, and with government on Monday:—

Bagge, William	Goring, Charles
Douglas, Sir H.	Turnor, Christopher

The *Times* of this morning has the following "epigrams, on the minister obtaining the ominous support of the Anti-corn-law League in the second division on the sugar question, while he has lost that of the hon. members for Bristol and East Somerset."

"Peel not advancing in his fatal course?
Whatever the end, for better or for worse,
'He must advance,' says witty Irish Teague,
'Who's only lost two Miles, and gained—a League.'"

ANOTHER.

"To gain a League must get you on your way:
'But view the end in all things,' wise ones say;
Where bad the road, and base your comrades are,
Than twenty Leagues two Miles are better far."

Yesterday the King of Saxony visited the City, where he was duly received and entertained by the Lord Mayor and corporation. He was present at the inauguration of the Duke of Wellington's statue opposite the Mansion-house.

THE WATERLOO BANQUET.—Yesterday being the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo, the Duke of Wellington gave his customary banquet, at Apsley house, to a numerous circle of those officers who participated in that engagement.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, and several members of the town council, have arrived in town, for the purpose of presenting an address to her Majesty upon the subject of Mr O'Connell's trial and imprisonment.

SYMPATHY WITH IRELAND.—MEETING AT LEICESTER. — A requisition, numerously signed, having been presented to the Mayor of Leicester to call a public meeting, to take into consideration the case of the Irish state prisoners, and that gentleman, while he concurred in the objects of the requisitionists, having declined, on account of the interruptions to which public meetings here have been liable, the requisitionists called a meeting in the New hall, for Monday evening last, which was numerously attended, and comprised a considerable number of ladies. A few chartists got into the hall, and attempted to interrupt the meeting; but, finding themselves greatly outnumbered, they gave up the attempt, and retired from the meeting. Mr John Collier, a member of the corporation, was called to the chair, and briefly introduced the business of the meeting. William Biggs, Esq., in an excellent speech, proposed the first resolution, which expressed the sympathy of the meeting with Mr O'Connell and his friends. It was seconded by Mr Winks, and carried. Mr Mursell, baptist minister, moved the adoption of an address to the Liberator, prefacing it with a long and eloquent speech. Other resolutions were carried when the meeting separated.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—Again is the scene repeated. The same unbounded enthusiasm which characterised the two former meetings displayed itself in an equally imposing manner on Monday. The sums of money poured in from all parts incontestably prove that the movement is general. Belfast and Cork, Galway and Dublin, all seem actuated by the same spirit, for they have given sterling evidences of their unanimity. William Geary, Esq., mayor of Limerick, was called to the chair. Mr Smith O'Brien said he had the pleasure of submitting to the meeting a document he had the honour of receiving from a dignitary of the catholic church. It was a letter from the Right Reverend Dr Kennedy, bishop of Killaloe, enclosing £125, the subscriptions of the patriotic clergy of his diocese, including his own personal subscription of £5. A letter was also read from Mr Gully, Ackworth park, Wakefield, enclosing a subscription of £20, and requesting to be enrolled a member of the Association [cheers]. Mr Daunt then rose, and said that he had the pleasure of introducing to the meeting Messrs George Smith and Dr M'Carroll, a deputation from Liverpool, bringing with them the magnificent sum of £137. Mr Daniel O'Connell, jun., handed in the sum of £42, the subscriptions of the O'Connell family for the present year. The list was headed by the subscription of Mr O'Connell, for £5. Mr O'Neill Daunt announced the receipt of £30 from Dungannon, and £74 from Armagh [loud cheering]. This was conclusive that the north of Ireland was alive and stirring, and was not, as their enemies represented, totally averse to a repeal of the Union. After various other sums of money had been handed in, Mr Smith O'Brien then rose for the purpose of moving the adoption of the address to the Queen, of which he had given notice on a former day of meeting. Before, however, he would do so, he would state the gratifying fact that Mr O'Connell was in the enjoyment of excellent health. During the last week a restriction had been imposed upon him. He had been denied the happiness and pleasure of expressing to the representatives of the different localities the gratitude he felt for their sympathy and condolence. After some further observations he said that it had been rumoured that the ministry had resigned. Assuming such a report to be well founded, such a circumstance rendered it more necessary that they should record their solemn determination to be satisfied with nothing short of a repeal of the legislative union [loud cheers]. It was right that the whigs, and their other friends in England, should know that it was not on their shoulders they should ride into power. No matter what minister should succeed to power, whether it was Lord John Russell or any one else, they had formed their determination, and nothing should induce them to swerve from it. He had not as yet consulted Mr O'Connell on the matter, but he would anticipate his advice, and he was sure that would be, no compromise [loud cheers]. The ministry that wishes to obtain the support of the Irish people must be prepared to concede a repeal of the union [immense cheering]. The meeting had not concluded when the post left, but the rent was likely to amount to £3,200.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour.
English ..	2120	670	4650			
Scotch						
Irish		100	9140			
Foreign ..	9020	5810	1920			

Very little doing. Spring corn is rather dearer.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Val Fra Quelch." If we were to open our columns to such complaints we should have no space for anything else, and no readers for above a month.
 "Apsley Pellatt." Next week.
 "William Goodman." Does not suit us.
 "S. Mull." Will not interest our readers.
 "William Stokes." The letter will be returned.
 "W." Declined.
 "Scoto-Britannicus." Far too long for our paper.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1844.

SUMMARY.

THE last week was rendered memorable by a ministerial crisis, the first which has occurred since the formation of the ministry. Defeats they have indeed suffered more than once before, inflicted upon them by the hands of their own supporters. But in former cases, no one imagined that the cabinet would be upset, inasmuch as the matter at issue was one affecting the people only, not the pecuniary profit of the monopolists. Triumphant opposition could in that case afford to give way, for in the judgment of the House of Commons the people can always wait. But in the present instance, the struggle with ministers was a struggle for their own advantage, and, by a narrow chance only has the administration escaped shipwreck. The question about which all this stir was occasioned—the battle-ground of this deadly encounter—was a proposal of Mr Miles, the member for Bristol, to relieve West Indian proprietors from some portion of their embarrassment, caused by the admission of free-grown foreign sugar into the British market at a greatly reduced differential duty, by lowering the duty on colonial sugar, from 24s. to 20s. the cwt, and by putting 4s. extra on white clayed sugars, certified to be the growth of China, Java, or Manilla, or of any foreign country, the sugar of which her Majesty, in council, shall have declared to be admissible, as not being the produce of slave labour. The probable effect of this proposition would have been to strengthen the West Indian monopoly, whilst, at the same time, it would have slightly lowered the price of sugar to the consumer. The whigs joined the honourable member for Bristol; the leading free-traders took part with the ministry, on the ground that their original proposition was a nearer approach to free trade. The division was adverse to ministers by a majority of twenty. This took place on Friday night. On Monday evening Sir Robert Peel came down to the house, and, alluding to former defeats, intimating also that, by giving way to the present combination of parties, he would only be encouraging similar attempts in future, he asked a reversal of the vote, and ultimately obtained it by a majority of twenty-two. The affair caused not a little excitement in political circles. The *Times* encouraged the monopolists to brave the anger of Sir Robert Peel, and, rather than give way, to let him resign. The *Morning Chronicle* vented the spite of the whigs upon the free traders, because they chose to prefer principle to party. Sir Robert Peel, in his speech on Monday night, betrayed his soreness, and was received in a manner which indicates that the breach between him and a considerable body of his supporters is more than nominal. Whether it will grow to anything out of which the people may reap some lasting benefit, is another and larger question, upon which we have briefly touched in the succeeding article.

The postscript of our last number gave a brief outline of the debate on Tuesday evening, upon Mr Ward's motion for going into a committee of the House on the subject of the Irish church. The question occupied two nights. It appears that on Wednesday evening, at one period of the discussion, a considerable majority of whigs being in the house, a division was loudly called for, when up rose Mr Peter Borthwick, who succeeded in speaking against time, until a sufficient number of tory adherents had been whipped in to stave off the threatened danger. The debate, upon which we have spoken elsewhere, terminated in a division, giving to ministers a majority of 99.

On Thursday evening the banking bill of Sir Robert Peel was read a second time: not, however, until after Mr Hawes had with great ability submitted an amendment, which, if successful, would have altered the character of the whole measure. A long discussion ensued, from which, as well as from the division, it may be gathered that this bill, more likely, perhaps, than any other

put forward by the present ministry, to cause future distress, to accumulate money in the hands of capitalists, to depreciate prices, and to give advantage only to fundholders, and persons of fixed incomes, will become law with little or no modification. On Friday evening, previously to the House going into committee on the sugar duties, Mr Duncombe brought forward cases of certain individuals, whose letters had been opened at the Post office by a warrant from the home secretary. Sir James Graham doggedly refused all explanation of his motives, and contented himself with stating that the warrant was no longer in force. We must say that the honourable baronet cut an extremely sorry figure in this disreputable affair; and the mode in which he met Mr Duncombe's inquiries, gives plausibility to the suspicion that there is more of the spy in his nature—more of the peering and unscrupulous curiosity of the pettifogging statesman, than becomes the dignity of the office he fills. He was literally without defence, and without a defender. None of his colleagues vouched for the propriety of his deed, and his manner has left upon society the impression that the deed itself will not bear the light.

The Lords have talked a little during the past week. In that house also the ministers have been defeated. There the ecclesiastical monopolists have compelled them not only to stay their hand at a very moderate reform, but even to undo what had previously been done. By the recommendation of the ecclesiastical commissioners, the sees of St Asaph and Bangor were to have been united, as soon as either of them became vacant, with a view to erect a new bishopric for the Manchester district; and an act was passed for that purpose. This displeased the high church party of which the Bishop of Exeter is an active leader. The attempt has been made before, but without success, to retain the Welsh sees in their present position; but this year the Earl of Powis, who mooted the question, has been more successful, and obtained a majority over ministers, of four votes. The decision, of course, will be reversed in the House of Commons. On Thursday evening, Lord Monteagle moved for a select committee on the import duties, which was, naturally enough, refused; and on Friday the Bishop of Exeter brought forward his bill for the suppression of brothels, when Earl Fitzhardinge administered a well-merited rebuke to the dean and chapter of Westminster, for conniving at the abomination carried on within their own locality, upon property, over which they had the control of landlords. The Bishop of Gloucester, it is true, stated that, since the matter had become one of public notoriety, the reverend dignitaries had exerted themselves to put down the nuisance; but the question occurs, how it happened that, for a long series of years, it was permitted, and even covertly encouraged, with a view to the pecuniary advantage of the ecclesiastical body. The Bishop of Gloucester stated that the houses in the Almonry were pulled down. A correspondent of the *Patriot*, who visited the place on Saturday night, avers that every one of them is still standing. So much for the veracity of the episcopal bench.

But we must hurry to a close. Save the increase of incendiaryism in Suffolk and Norfolk, upon which we have commented in another place, no topic remains to be touched upon but that of Ireland. The Richmond penitentiary is now the theatre of the repeal agitation. The imprisonment of Mr O'Connell is doing more for the cause he has espoused than all his monster meetings were able to effect. Deputations from a large number of municipalities met together last week in Dublin—mayors and aldermen were there in unprecedented numbers. They went in procession to the gaol, bearing with them addresses of sympathy to Mr O'Connell. They were refused admission, and consequently retired, and gave united utterance, in an address to the people of Ireland, to their united sentiments and feelings. We are glad to see that the illustrious prisoner excites the sympathy, not only of his countrymen, but also of the better portion of the English public. Birmingham and Liverpool have spoken out; Leicester is about to do so; and the example, we hope, will soon be followed in the metropolis. If there be any truth in the rumour that Sir Robert Peel intends to ask of parliament an act for the suppression of the Repeal Association, we should hope that the spirit of every friend of liberty will be roused within him; and that ministers will be told, in a voice of thunder, that there are limits beyond which oppression can no longer practise upon patience.

THE MEETING OF THE MONOPOLISTS.

DOWNING street has been thrown into commotion. On Friday night, Mr Miles wrested from ministers a majority of twenty, in a full House, for his amendment in favour of the Sugar Duties bill. The monopolists had long eyed the siding of Sir R. Peel towards free-trade principles with sullen discontent. The lowering of the differential duty on foreign sugars, the produce of free labour, awakened their slumbering indignation. The advantages which they had maintained against open attacks; they

saw the man of their choice yielding up piecemeal. For a time, the threat of resignation, like the rod kept over the mantel-piece to awe into subjection the unruly spirits of childhood, sufficed to suppress incipient rebellion. The monopolists, however, grew up into a seeming conviction that a worse thing might overtake them than a change in the administration. They came to the determination to dare their own leader. They have attempted to throw off the yoke. The fear of Peel was to be no longer before their eyes. Great excitement followed the vote of Friday night. Cabinet councils were convoked. Absent ministers were sent for by express. Messengers hurried to and fro. Rumours of resignation were rife. Every indication betokened a fatal rupture. What is the issue? The reversal on Monday night of the decision arrived at on Friday night. The Premier was inexorable. The House of Commons, with an ill-grace, knuckled under—and ministers humbled their own party by a majority of twenty-two.

It is becoming, now, sufficiently clear, that the policy of the Peel cabinet has reached its culminating point. The reign of plausibility draws to a close. The clever tricksiness which, under cover of protection, sought to widen the range of commerce to an extent which might answer the immediate wants of the population, could only succeed for a time. All parties might at first see their interest in submitting to it—no party could, for any lengthened period, find satisfaction in it. Here it might entrap—there it might overbear—nowhere could it elicit confidence. The day for mere dexterity of management is gone by. Men are ranging themselves, at length, under the banners of hostile principles, and are coming to care less and less every day about the interests of party. The recent vote does not disprove this. The temper in which it was given, renders it certain that ministers have had the last game of servility played into their hands. They will lose more than they gain by their triumph. They will keep their places, but they will lose their supporters. Mortification will break the spirit of their forces. Another general election will return, not a ministerial, but a monopolist majority. He who now commands, must then be content to serve—and in the place of endless manoeuvring, we shall have a succession of pitched battles. We look forward to this state of things with interest and with hope—for under it, the political education of the people will proceed with unwonted rapidity.

The great principles to which we have given our advocacy, being, as we take it, the principles of common sense and common justice, have their roots deeper in the hearts of the people than superficial observers are apt to imagine. Conventional combinations, like parched and hardened soil, have succeeded until now in preventing their appearance above the surface, in any strongly organised forms; and men have concluded that, because little is seen, but little exists. We are convinced that this is a great mistake. A few beams of hope would produce such a transformation in the aspect of the political world as this country has never yet witnessed. The seeds of truth are thickly sown, and have been long germinating in the bosom of society. They have not pushed themselves forth into air and sunshine, simply because they have been obstructed by artificial impediments. The earth above them, however, begins to crack. The force of party adhesiveness is giving way. Conservatism shows, here and there, wide rents in its texture. The moving power of opinion, operating upon it from beneath, splits it into sections. Herein we have the first palpable indication of a general breaking up. We read the discomfiture of the class in their internal divisions. Their strength was the strength of compactness and union: that being gone, they are strong no longer. The few against the many have no chance of success but in their indivisibility. Mutiny in their ranks will be fatal, however it may terminate.

It is a matter, therefore, of minor interest to the people whether ministers triumph over their supporters, or their supporters over them. The victory of Sir Robert Peel is, perhaps, more auspicious for the popular cause, than would have been his defeat and retirement—not on account of any serious principle involved in the recent struggle, but because the country is not yet ripe to take advantage of his exile from the purlieus of office. It is better that he should hold on yet awhile; for the course he is pursuing will widen the breach between the furious monopolists and the abettors of gradual relaxation. His school is but a temporary one. He is not the man to conduct the grand struggle to its issue. We must retrograde before we can advance. The Buckinghams and the Richmonds, the landlord and sugar bankrupts, have yet to try their hand at government. Their turn comes next. Desperation will force them into power. Their all is staked upon the contest. They will die game. But die they must. Office, which they would fain avoid, they must needs fill. Sir Robert Peel will not answer their end. A coalition ministry is scarcely probable. A free-trade House of Commons is but the dream of wild enthusiasm. Nothing remains for monopoly but to take its final stand upon its selfish interests, and defend them

against the wiles of professed friends, as well as from the touch of open foes. Then will come the real tug of war. Then the nation will be fairly pitted against the aristocracy. A sharp, short conflict will ensue; and none can seriously doubt on which side victory will finally declare itself.

INCENDIARISM IN THE EASTERN COUNTIES.

THE eastern agricultural counties are being forced into as unhappy a notoriety, by the frequency of incendiary fires, as was South Wales, last year, by the midnight freaks of Rebecca. The same causes operate in the one case as in the other; the effects being only varied by local circumstances. Want, grim want—oppression in every shape—the unrelenting and never-ending exigencies of frightful poverty—the advantages which capital mercilessly wrests from labour—the ruthless severance of all the ancient ties which once bound together the master and his men—these are the sources out of which incendiarism takes its rise. The wretched labourer pinched with hunger, encompassed on every side with squalid misery, with nothing in prospect but the alternative of starvation, or imprisonment in a union house, becomes at length the victim of a black despair. Plenty is in close proximity to him, in which he can never hope to participate. Gripping avarice doling out his wages, no more, even by a single farthing, than legal justice could demand; the pride of power insolently oblivious of his feelings; and society at large in utter ignorance of his woes—these things, as the poor woman said to the correspondent of the *Times*, “put bad thro’ into the head of the husband and the father,” and impel him to steal forth and let the world read his wretchedness in flames of fire.

We have no idea that there exists any system—any furtive combination among the labourers—any secret conspiracy to perpetrate these deeds of horror. Their prevalence and simultaneous appearance in certain districts of the country might, indeed, at first blush, suggest the notion; but any one well acquainted with the habits of our labouring agricultural population, would at once dismiss it as the absurdest of all improbabilities. We doubt not, indeed, that the occurrence of one fire leads on to another; just as when one insane person leaps from the monument, many insane persons are prompted to imitate the example. But concert, we believe, there is none. In some instances, the crime may be accounted for by personal vindictive feeling; in the far greater number, we imagine, it is the fruit of horrible despair—the instinctive persuasion in the breast of the ignorant labourer, that the condition of his own class will never be improved until the classes superior to him have been scared into some considerations of justice. He has the immediate experience of a misery which cannot be made worse. He has a general sense of wrong scathing his very heart. He has an indefinite and vague expectation that crime will open to him some door of relief. He sees that the consternation produced by frequent fires leads oftentimes to inquiry, inquiry to public commiseration, and public commiseration to more substantial good. He is tempted to give a fiery expression to his sullen discontent. Oftentimes, it may be, he wrestles with that temptation in perfect agony. It steals over him again and again. He becomes familiarised with its hideous features. In his own thoughts the deed, which once looked so atrocious, becomes all but justifiable. The materials are thus laid for mischief. Some bitter disappointment—bitter, however small in itself, because exasperating feelings already crushed and bleeding—drops a small spark upon the combustible matter pent up within him; and he goes forth to commit an act at which his own nature would, under other circumstances, have shuddered.

So far as the accounts have yet gone, there seems to have been no desire to inflict injury upon person. The spots selected for incendiarism are usually at a distance from the dwelling-houses of individuals. Nor would it appear that particular malice prompts the wicked act, since, in those districts where penury and want are prevalent, the property of kind and popular masters is fired as often as that of gripping and cruel ones. Incendiary fires are rather the blotches which indicate deep-seated constitutional disease. They tell the tale, not of one individual, but of hundreds. They wreak their fury, not upon this man, or upon that, but upon the property which first falls within reach. It is becoming the agricultural mode of agitation. The population in our country districts are too scattered to combine—too ignorant to plan a movement. They have no mode of telling the world their grievances. No avenues to the legislature are open to their approach. The ordinary methods of making an impression upon society, are, in their case, out of the question. They must speak singly; and how can they speak singly, so as to be heard? They know of but one method. They can fire hay-stacks and wheat-ricks. They can create around them an atmosphere of terror; and out of the midst of flame and smoke, perchance,

the history of their sufferings may at length tell upon the ear of the world.

Such we believe to be the philosophy of incendiarism. It is the last effort of the miserable to right themselves. The criminals may merit, and do merit, the vengeance of violated law, but not to the exclusion of pity. The fact is that human nature cannot endure the long continuance of evils such as have become their daily lot to bear. Let the gentry look to it. Incendiarism is more closely connected with their profusion and extravagance than they are willing to suspect. “Property has its duties as well as its rights,” and, where the duties are systematically neglected, the rights at length will come to be treated with little ceremony. The remedy is in the hands of the landlords. They must apply it, or take the consequences.

The accouchement of her Majesty will take place at Windsor Castle. That interesting event is expected to occur early in the ensuing month. Dr Locock, first physician accoucheur to the Queen, will be in attendance on her Majesty, when the court takes its departure from Buckingham Palace.

The King of Saxony spent Thursday at Richmond, Kew, Sion house, and Ealing, dining with the Earl of Aberdeen. On Saturday he was entertained by Sir R. Peel at Whitehall gardens, where a numerous company were assembled.

We learn with regret that the suddenness of the departure of the Emperor of Russia for his capital was occasioned by the distressing intelligence that his second daughter had a premature confinement, and that the most alarming symptoms had supervened. The Emperor was to travel with all possible speed to the scene of domestic affliction.—*Observer*.

When the Emperor of Russia was inspecting the guard of honour, commanded by the Marquess of Worcester, at Windsor castle, he addressed the Queen in the following words:—“Although I have no troops like these, such as I have will ever be at your Majesty’s service.”—*Court Journal*.

We are happy to state, on good authority, that Earl Grey has recovered from his recent indisposition.—*Sunderland Herald*.

CHIEF JUSTICE TINDAL.—The Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, completed his 15th year of judicial office on Tuesday, and is consequently entitled to claim a full retiring pension.

Friday night’s *Gazette* announces that the Queen has appointed Mr Edward Goulburn, sergeant-at-law, to be commissioner on the court of Bankruptcy, in the room of Mr Merivale, deceased.

THE MINISTERS.—MEETING AT THE CARLTON.—A meeting of members of parliament, who ordinarily vote on the ministerial side of the House, was held in the drawing room of the Carlton club, at four o’clock on Sunday afternoon, pursuant to a requisition signed by five members. Between sixty and seventy members of parliament were present; Sir John Yarde Buller taking the chair. Mr D’Israeli inquired by what authority and for what purpose the meeting had been convened? Lord Ingestre replied that he, in conjunction with Mr Forbes Mackenzie and the other requisitionists, had thought it advisable, after the vote of Friday night, that there should be a meeting, and had, accordingly, issued a notice convening it. Mr Mackenzie added, that he was authorised to state, that if the meeting then assembled would unanimously sign a declaration of confidence in Sir R. Peel’s government, he would not resign office, but continue to conduct the affairs of the country. Mr Ferrand asked by whom the statement had been authorised, and whether it was expected that the sixty conservatives who voted with Mr Miles in opposition to the government on Friday night were expected to rescind their votes? Mr Mackenzie declined to answer these questions. Mr Christopher, however, said that he was one of those who had voted against Sir R. Peel on Friday; but he was still prepared to sign a declaration of confidence in the government, rather than let in the whigs. Lord Sandon professed himself willing to sign a general declaration of confidence, reserving to himself, however, a right of private judgment. [Such, we presume, as he exercised on Friday.] Sir Howard Douglas was prepared to vote unlimited confidence. Mr Blackstone declined to support so extensive a declaration. Mr Blakemore said that the meeting was one of conservatives, and he was surprised therefore at Mr Ferrand’s presence. Mr D’Israeli challenged Mr Blakemore to a definition of conservatism, but Mr Blakemore declined so embarrassing a task. Several members expressed their dread of a declaration of “unlimited confidence,” as they were quite in the dark as to the minister’s future measures, and knew not which interest might be next assailed. The meeting, which was very noisy, and evidently far from unanimous, closed without coming to any decision, and adjourned until twelve o’clock to-day. The question, “How can we meet our constituents?” was frequently and anxiously repeated.—*Times*.—The *Standard* informs us of the result of the adjourned meeting. “A very numerous meeting of the conservative members of the House of Commons was held in the drawing-room of the Carlton Club this (Monday) morning. Before twelve o’clock upwards of 200 members had assembled, and many others entered the room afterwards. We understand that at this important meeting a resolution of entire confidence in Sir Robert Peel’s government was proposed and carried unanimously. The resolution was forwarded to the right hon. baronet in Whitehall Gardens, previous to the assembling of the Cabinet Council.”

General News.

FOREIGN.

AMERICA.

Intelligence has been received from New York to the 1st of June. President Tyler had created a “sensation” by the avowal that he had stationed an army of observation on the frontiers of Texas. The senate had passed a resolution categorically demanding information on the subject; to which Mr Tyler has replied in a long message, detailing his proceedings. The senate passed another resolution, requesting to be informed whether a messenger had been sent to Mexico with a view to obtain her consent to the treaty of annexation; and the President had communicated an additional message, accompanied, as before, with a large number of documents. The reply, dated May the 15th, is in the negative; and Mr Tyler advances as a reason why that step had not been taken, that the assent of a third party in the affair was not necessary. There was some talk of impeaching the President for exceeding his power under the constitution; but it is generally doubted whether the proceeding is really an excess of authority. Several speeches, strongly condemning the annexation, had been made in the senate. The venerable and respected Chancellor Kent being asked for an opinion, gave it thus:—“I think that there can be no doubt that the enormous abuses and stretch of power by President Tyler afford ample materials for the exercise of the power of impeachment, and an imperative duty in the House of Representatives to put it in practice.”

The senate had rejected the nomination of Mr Murphy as the American charge d’affaires to Texas; in all probability, because of Mr Murphy’s agency in the movement to procure the annexation of that province.

A democratic convention at Baltimore had chosen as the party’s candidate for the presidency, Mr James K. Polk, of Tennessee; Mr George M. Dallas, of Pennsylvania, for the vice-presidency. This is an unexpected blow to Mr Van Buren’s friends; and the whigs regard Mr Clay’s election as made certain by the “split.” A Tyler convention was held at Baltimore at the same time as the great democratic meeting, and nominated John Tyler for president—vice-president not nominated. The election of Henry Clay and a whig administration, which seems the most probable, will probably render the American tariff stable for five years from this time.

On the 18th May, a fire broke out in a carpenter’s shop in New Orleans, which soon spread over several squares; consuming, in its progress, nearly three hundred houses, leaving houseless two thousand persons, and destroying property worth four hundred thousand dollars.

From Canada we learn, according to a Kingston paper, “that the Governor-general has formed his new cabinet, and that the nominations will be promulgated before his excellency’s departure from Kingston.” The provincial parliament is convoked to meet in Montreal on the 24th of June.

FRANCE.

The despatches from the French generals in Algeria inform us that the expected war with Morocco has commenced. General Lamoriciere stationed himself with a body of troops on a portion of territory which is disputed between the two powers, and levied tribute from the native chiefs; on which a comparatively small force of Moors attacked him, and was defeated with great loss. Preparations are making in France to send large military reinforcements; and the Prince of Joinville is ordered to repair with a fleet to the Barbary coast. General Lamoriciere’s despatches are introduced by the following paragraph:—

“As may be seen by the annexed correspondence from Africa, received this morning by the minister of war, a skirmish took place on our territory between the troops of Lieutenant-general Lamoriciere, and 1,400 or 1,500 cavalry of the Abd-el-Bokhari, and 800 Arab cavalry, in front of Ouedha. Notwithstanding this *maelchouffronnée*, which might reasonably be attributed to one of those acts contrary to discipline so ordinary in similar armies, but which moreover, was rudely chastised, we persist in believing that the regular troops, under the command of El Gensoni, will look twice before they commence hostilities seriously. If, against our expectation, the Emperor of Morocco was so badly advised as to attack us, the good dispositions taken by General Lamoriciere, the co-operation of General Bedeau, who came from Tlemecen to support him, and the presence of Marshal Bugeaud upon the point of our frontier which is threatened, and where he must be at the present moment, would not fail to cause this sovereign to repent of having yielded to the instigations and threats of Abd-el-Kader.”

The *Moniteur Parisien* announces the receipt of letters from Africa to the 5th instant. Since the affair of the 31st of May no engagement had taken place between the French and Morocco troops.

The *Toullonnaise* states “that several regiments of the line, besides the 36th, are to be immediately embarked for Algeria. A great commotion is observable in the ports and roads. The steam frigate *Asmodee*, detached from the evolutionary squadron, the *Labrador*, *Orenoque*, the steam corvette *Cuvier*, and other ships of war, are being prepared for sea. Vice-admiral Parseval, who arrived at Toulon yesterday, in the *Asmodee*, with his lady, has gone on board the *Sovereign*, to make choice of men to complete the crews of the ships belonging to the evolutionary squadron, and which is about to proceed shortly to the coast of Morocco.”

The *Moniteur* of Tuesday contains the following announcement:—“The King, on the proposition of the minister of marine, has just decided that the

Prince de Joinville is to hoist his flag in one of the ships of the line of the squadron of evolutions, and to proceed in her, accompanied by a steam frigate, two smaller steamers, and several light vessels, to cruise off the eastern coast of the state of Morocco. His royal highness will leave very soon for Toulon, to assume the command of the naval division which is to act under his orders. The Prince's departure has, however, been delayed for a time. He refuses to proceed on his mission under any restrictions from diplomatic agents.

The *Courrier Français* states that an aid-de-camp of Marshal Soult was reported to have left for Morocco, on a special mission from the government, and that another agent of the French government started at 2 o'clock on Thursday for Barcelona.

On Friday and Tuesday, the bill for the improvement of the great harbours of France was under consideration; and the sum of seventeen millions of francs was granted to establish the auxiliary harbour of La Joliette, near Marseilles; twenty millions for the improvement of the port of Havre; a similar sum for the port of Marseilles; and smaller sums for the improvement of Bordeaux and the building of additional lighthouses on the coast.

SPAIN.

According to letters from Gibraltar, the Emperor of Morocco had not yet replied to the ultimatum of Spain on the 28th ult. The British consul at Tangier took an active part in the negotiations pending between the two countries, and was said to have been instructed by his government to do everything in his power to prevent a rupture between Morocco and Spain. Sir R. Wilson, Governor of Gibraltar, had lately visited Tangier.

The *Madrid Clamor Publico*, of the 7th instant, announces that Queen Isabella has raised Don Francisco Munoz, now residing in Paris, to the dignity of a grandee of Spain, by the title of Duke of Rinzares.

Our Madrid letters of the 8th of June state that it is expected the decree for dissolving the Cortes will be published forthwith, and the new Cortes be called in September.

The *Heraldo* says that the differences between Spain and the Holy See are under negotiation, and that it is expected they will soon come to a favourable termination. M. Castillo had arrived at Rome.

The *Periad* of Barcelona states that it is assured that the Queen will remain at Barcelona the whole summer, and that all the ministers are to join her Majesty in a short time.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

SUICIDE BY CHARCOAL.—M. Cuvier, engineer of the Ponts et Chaussées, in the department of the Allier, the nephew of the great naturalist, has just put an end to his life, by means of lighted charcoal.

REPEAL IN ST PETERSBURGH.—The all engrossing subject at this moment in St Petersburg is the grand costume ball for the Irish (to be given by subscription), on the 30th of June, the profits of which are to be devoted to the repeal fund, as a mark of profound sympathy for the incarcerated Irish patriots! Several of our most noted leaders of fashion outvie one another in forwarding this generous impulse; the gracious sanction of his Imperial Majesty having been obtained, has made this benevolent demonstration amount to enthusiasm! (?)—*Letter in the Chronicle.*

THE CANADIAN REBELLION.—The official paper announces that, at the instance of the American minister in Great Britain, the British government has pardoned ten of the American citizens sent to Van Dieman's Land for sharing in the Canadian rebellion in 1838, and that orders have been despatched accordingly. Their names are—Hiram Sharp, John Gillman, Ira Polly, Orrin W. Smith, Bemis Woodbury, George T. Brown, Daniel Liskum, Robert Q. Collins, John Thomas, and Edward A. Wilson.—*New York paper.*

A letter from Berlin, June 3, says, "The report is revived that a great congress of sovereigns will shortly take place in Germany, at which the Emperors of Russia and Austria and the King of Prussia will take part. Carlsbad is spoken of as the place of meeting."

GREECE.—The *Press* announces, that "the President of the Greek ministry, M. Mavrocordato, had resigned, and that all his colleagues were about to follow his example. The late cabinet, composed under British influence, had from its entrance into office met with such opposition, that it was obliged to yield. General Coletti, who is not hostile to French influence, will no doubt be commissioned to form the new ministry."

The *Prussian Gazette* states, that serious disturbances had occurred amongst the weavers of Peterswalden and Langenbrelau, in Silesia. Several manufactories were demolished, and it was found necessary to send for a military force to Schemednitz. Those troops fired upon the people, and a number were killed and wounded.

SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE AT SEA.—A very singular circumstance has been communicated to us by Captain Vickers, of the schooner, Henry Curwen, of this port, deserving of the notice of scientific individuals. On the 7th of May last, in lat. 44 north, and long. 32.36, about four o'clock in the morning, it was discovered that all the watches on board, and the chronometer, had stopped; and on referring to the compasses, of which there were three on board, they pointed to different parts, and were for a time useless. In about two hours afterwards, the watches and chronometers recommenced going, and the compasses became again as before.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

AN OLD MAN.—The *Castellano* states, that there is at present living at Madrid an old man, 136 years of age. He was born at Cangas de Vineo, in the

Asturias, the 24th of June, 1708. He was private secretary to Count Rohan Chabot, whilst he filled the post of ambassador from the court of Spain to the courts of France and Portugal. He was acquainted with Frederick II. of Prussia. His habits are simple and regular. He rises with the sun, and takes a daily promenade. He was acquainted with Philip V., Ferdinand VI., Charles III., Charles IV., Joseph Bonaparte, and Ferdinand VII. He does not appear to be more than 70 years of age.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.—The annual examination of the girls' school in the Borough road, took place on Wednesday, the 12th inst, when a large company assembled in the large and convenient school room of the society. The children were examined in reading both in the lesson books of the society and in the scriptures. They were then rigidly questioned on the subjects read; and subsequently on English history, natural history, geography, arithmetic, and grammar, and in the scriptures generally. In all these branches they displayed the highest proficiency. The questions proposed to them by the chairman (Lord Viscount Ebrington), and by the Bishop of Norwich, were most searching, and the answers of the children elicited general applause. In domestic matters, such as cutting out of garments, needlework of various kinds, culinary information, &c., &c., they appeared quite at home, and proved the practical and useful character of the instruction imparted in the school. At the close, Lord Ebrington and the Bishop addressed the company, and expressed the high gratification they had experienced. The examination of the boys' school, we see by the advertisement, is to take place this day; when Sir George Grey, Bart., M.P., one of the vice-presidents of the society, is expected to take the chair.

CITY OF LONDON CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.—The festival of the City of London Conservative Association took place on Wednesday evening at Covent Garden theatre. The feelings exhibited on the occasion, more especially in reference to political allusions, were cold. Tables were set, both in the body of the house and upon the stage, lengthways, crossways, and every way, and it is but justice to say that but few were unoccupied. The boxes, however, presented but a sorry appearance; not being nearly half filled. The chair was taken by William Thompson, Esq., alderman, M.P., president of the association, who was supported by Lord Ingestre, M.P., Sir Howard Douglas, M.P., Sir James Lushington, Mr Henry Pownall, Colonel Astell, Mr Thomas Wilson, Mr Mackinnon, Mr Alderman Copeland, Mr H. Kemble, M.P., for East Surrey, Mr Thomas Baring, M.P., and others. The absence of her Majesty's ministers, and of every person of note, made the evening pass off very heavily.

NEW ASYLUM FOR INFANT ORPHANS.—A public meeting was held on Thursday evening, the 13th inst., at the Hall of Commerce, to adopt the revised laws, &c. of this newly established institution. It was numerously and highly respectfully attended. In the absence of C. Hindley, Esq., M.P., who was unavoidably detained in Lancashire, the chair was taken by John Wilks, Esq. The chairman after referring to the circumstances that occasioned the separation from the parent society, called on Dr Reed, who officiates as honorary secretary to the new institution, to report the result of the deliberations of the provisional committee. Dr Reed then came forward and read the rules which had been drawn up by the committee:—

It is proposed to recommend, that instead of "The Asylum for Infant Orphans," we shall make use of the term, "New Asylum for Infant Orphans." In the 2nd rule, it is proposed to make a variation from the age of seven years to eight, so that the infant will be eligible to remain till eight years of age; in practice, the former rule would so operate. In the 13th rule it was provided, that persons subscribing ten guineas, and one guinea annually, would not only have two votes, but be eligible for office; it is proposed to omit the latter clause, so that it will be open to the body of subscribers to select whom they please. The 22nd rule has a provision attached to it, in case you agree to the fundamental rule. The board proposes a variation in the 25th rule, which refers to the time of election, in order that we may clash, as little as possible, with existing institutions; instead, therefore, of the elections taking place in April and October, it is proposed they should take place in January and June. It is also submitted, that in the event of a child being unsuccessful at one election, it should have credit for the number polled at that time, and the two elections following, but no farther. The board are disposed to recommend an alteration in reference to the catholicity of the institution in future times, so that it will not promote the interests of a sect or party, or embarrass the consciences of any, but confer a great and important benefit on the infant orphan without those distinctions. The rule has been referred to three gentlemen who were legally informed on this question; and, after the best consideration they can give the subject, it is proposed that the following shall be the fundamental rule:—"That it being the design of this society to receive and bless the fatherless infant, without distinction of sex, place, or religious connexion, that it be a rule absolute, beyond the control of any future general meeting, or any act of incorporation, that while the education of the infant family shall be strictly religious and scriptural, no denominational catechism or creed whatever shall be introduced [cheers]—and that no particular forms whatever shall be imposed on any child, contrary to the religious convictions of the surviving parent, or guardian, of such child [cheers]."

Dr Reed then moved the adoption of the above rule, which was seconded by D. W. Wire, Esq. H. Bateman, Esq., still disposed to think that enough had not been done in the work of conciliation, and

that the differences might still be healed, moved an amendment embodying his views, which fell to the ground for want of a seconder. Mr Gammon in reply gave the following explanation:—

He had belonged to the other institution, from the day of its formation at the London tavern, and had, for sixteen years, been a member of the committee. During that period nothing could have gone on more prosperously than it did up to the time that Mr Stanton was introduced as secretary. It was expressly stated to that gentleman by Mr Fell that the committee consisted of churchmen and dissenters, and other circumstances were fully explained. After the lapse of nine or ten months from the time that that gentleman accepted office, he wrote on the subject of introducing the Church catechism; and it gave rise to correspondence carried on for some time. At length the question was brought before the committee, not by a direct motion, but by a resolution to the effect that all books used in the school should be exclusively under the control of the chaplain and schoolmaster, taking out of the power of the committee the slightest control over the education of the children. He (Mr G.), as a last point, before the severance took place, inquired whether, if the surviving parent or guardian of a child should present to the committee, in writing, their conscientious objections to the child being taught the church catechism, that child would be exempted? The reply of Mr Stanton was, "We are determined to stand or fall by the motion before us" [loud cries of "Hear, hear"]. Dr Reed being unwell at the time, he had requested that the question might be adjourned for one week, in order that a conference might be had with him; and that was positively negatived [hear, hear]. If that were not intolerance, he knew not what was [cheers].

Mr James Sherman, of Surrey chapel, gave further details of Mr Stanton's headlong intolerance, concluding with the sentiment—"If he (Mr Sherman) did not mistake his own heart, and his own feelings, he yielded to no man in the world for a desire for union with all those who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and in truth. But if union were to be purchased at the expense of leaving the selection of all the books to the chaplain—and a chaplain of that character—then, for one, he was happy to dissolve the connexion." Dr Reed entered into a defence of his own conduct in the matter, declaring that the course he had pursued was not the result of any personal feeling, but of a strict adherence to principle. The various rules were carried unanimously. Mr D. W. Wire, in the course of a few remarks, stated that, not only was the Infant Orphan asylum founded by a dissenter (Dr Reed), but that, for a length of time, the committee was composed partly of churchmen and partly of dissenters. Dr Reed then read a list of subscriptions which, with those received at the last meeting, amounted to about £1,000. He also stated, that Mr Moxhay, the proprietor of the hall, had again granted its gratuitous use, and had promised to do so for the first election [loud cheers]. After various votes of thanks, the meeting separated.

THE SANATORIUM.—THE CO-OPERATIVE PRINCIPLE.—The annual festival to aid the funds of the Sanatorium was held on Tuesday week, at the London tavern. Mr Charles Dickens was in the chair; supported by Dr Southwood Smith, Mr G. R. Porter, Mr Stanfield, Mr Maclellan, Mr R. H. Horne, Mr Harrison Ainsworth, Mr Harley, and other gentlemen: the company numbered about a hundred and ninety; including eighty ladies, who, by an agreeable innovation, joined the party. The object of the Sanatorium is to afford, at moderate cost, lodging, nursing, and medical attendance, to those patients who have not sufficient comforts or conveniences at home, and yet are not in a position of life to enter a hospital. Between four and five hundred pounds was collected. The *Spectator* says:—

"Perhaps the most important, certainly the most interesting experiment in the application of the co-operative principle, that has recently been made, is the Sanatorium. At present, and probably for a long time to come, the doom of not a few of the most amiable and accomplished of both sexes must be celibacy—lonely struggling amid a huge crowd of fellow-beings, all with their attention engrossed by the difficult task of self-support. Prudential considerations forbid them to form new family ties, and time necessarily relaxes and destroys those into which they were born. They are alone in the world—a dreary enough position in the brief intervals of toil, but terrible in the hours of sickness. This is especially the lot of a numerous portion of those who live by the exercise of the useful and ornamental arts, or by literature. The idea of enabling such persons, by a moderate annual subscription, to command, when in bad health, something of the comforts of a family, deserved an experimental trial; and hitherto its success has been encouraging. The positive addition which the ultimate success of the Sanatorium will make to the happiness of the class for which it is intended—the increase of comforts in sickness, and the removal of worrying apprehensions in health—is not the limit of its utility. It will form a new bond of connexion between the isolated beings for whom it is designed, in health as well as in sickness. By giving a common pursuit and a common interest to its directors and subscribers, it will form a kind of relationship among them. It will reunite into a larger family those who have survived the domestic circle of youth without being engrained upon another. It will lend practical sagacity to the vague impulse of benevolence, and will breathe a soul of kindly feeling into those industrial pursuits most apt to render men selfish."

THE SHERIFFALTY.—Mr Alderman Challis has applied to be excused from serving the office of sheriff for the ensuing year, and the application will no doubt be assented to, as Alderman William Hunter is to serve the office, and great inconvenience would result from the serving of two aldermen in that office at the same time.

THE DUKEDOM OF SUSSEX.—The proceedings in this cause were resumed on Thursday morning in the House of Lords. There were about forty peers present, as also the chief justices of the Queen's

bench and Common Pleas, the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, Mr Baron Parke, &c., &c. A number of love letters were read by counsel from the late Duke to his beloved "Augusta" Murray, also replies from the fair lady herself, after which, the further hearing of the case was postponed until yesterday.

At the Central Criminal court, on Thursday, Elizabeth Lindsay and Ellen Lindsay were charged with stealing, and James Lindsay with receiving, a quantity of blankets, &c., from Buckingham palace. An irreproachable character was given to all the prisoners. After four hours' deliberation, the jury acquitted them all.

On Friday, Augustus Dalmas was tried for the murder of Sarah Eleanor McFarlane, at Battersea bridge, on the 29th of April last. The evidence disclosed nothing in addition to the tale which was made familiar to the public by the long examinations before the coroner. The defence by his counsel, Mr Wilkins, consisted in pointing out the weak parts of the evidence; contending that the declaration of the dying woman, that Dalmas had killed her, was the effect of a confused mind; and that the man who was seen to run up Church street crying "Police!" (which would have shown Dalmas's knowledge of the murder) was not Dalmas, but a Mr Mullins, dressed in a broad brimmed hat like the Frenchman's. The jury retired at twenty minutes past five, and at twenty minutes past eight they returned a verdict of "Guilty." On the following day the prisoner received sentence of execution.

THREATENING LETTER.—At Bow street police office, on Wednesday, Oliver Walsh, a carpenter and builder, of Dublin, was charged with sending a threatening letter to Sir Robert Peel. When called upon by Mr Jardine, the magistrate, for his defence, he said that his property had been seized in Dublin; he had been refused justice at the Dublin police courts; the magistrates bribed the newspaper reporters to suppress his case; and distress had brought on a brain fever. They said he was insane; but, he added, "I am not insane—but they might as well fasten a pan to my tail, and cry me through the streets as a mad dog, as they absolutely have done." He said that he had no friends in London; and, bursting into tears, he wept bitterly. He was ordered to put in bail, himself under penalty of £200, and two sureties of £100 each, for his good behaviour during the next four months; and in default he was committed to Tothill Fields prison.

PROVINCIAL.

SYMPATHY WITH IRELAND.

GREAT MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday last a public meeting was held at Birmingham, to take into consideration the case of the Irish state prisoners, which was very numerously and respectfully attended.

Councillor JAMES PERRY moved, and Mr HAWKES seconded the motion, that THOMAS WESTON, Esq., the mayor, do take the chair.

The motion was carried by acclamation, and on the MAYOR taking his seat, he was loudly applauded. He said that he had called that meeting together (in consequence of a requisition numerously signed) to address the Crown, and adopt measures they might deem necessary, in consequence of the prosecution, sentence, and imprisonment of Mr O'Connell and his co-defendants. The requisition being so respectably and numerously signed, he felt himself compelled to call that meeting. It might be recollected that, some months ago, before he was appointed to the office which he then had the honour to hold, that he presided at a meeting held in the open air, in consequence of the suppression of a peaceable meeting at Clontarf by a military force [cheers]. On that occasion he expressed his opinion as to the manner in which Mr O'Connell conducted himself under such trying circumstances, and applauded him. Before they proceeded further, he begged that it might be understood that they were not met to discuss the question of repeal; but to protest against the recent proceedings in parliament. He begged leave to introduce to them his esteemed friend Joseph Sturge. He had been engaged in removing the chains of the black slave, and was now as ardently engaged in knocking off the chains of the white slave [great cheering].

Mr STURGE then came forward, and was received with enthusiastic and long-continued applause. He read letters from Mr Muntz and Mr Scholefield, excusing themselves from attending on account of urgent private business. Mr Sturge then said:—The committee who prepared the resolutions for this meeting, thought it best to embody in a protest the general sentiments which might be here expressed. The protest I now rise to move. It is to this effect:—

Resolved—"That we, the inhabitants of the borough of Birmingham, in town's meeting assembled, do hereby record our solemn protest against the prosecution, trial, sentence, and imprisonment of Daniel O'Connell and his co-defendants."

"First, Because the government by which the prosecution has been conducted was placed in power by the corrupt influence of the aristocracy, is maintained in office by a House of Commons in the choice of which the great majority of the community have no voice, governs by means of a standing army and the power of physical force, and does not express the judgment of the people of these realms."

"Secondly, Because state prosecutions, having for their end and object the suppression of the peaceable discussion of national grievances, are directly opposed to the spirit of the British constitution, tend to subvert all free institutions, and endanger the dearest political rights of the whole community."

"Thirdly, Because the prosecution has been characterised by circumstances exhibiting an unfair influence over the right administration of justice: viz.—the suspicious disappearance from the jury list of a number of Roman Catholics, whereby the jury, instead of being composed of 'twelve creditable men, who were neighbours to the fact, and unexceptionable

to the parties concerned,' was constituted exclusively of the political and religious opponents of the accused; the marked bias against the defendants of one of the judges who presided; the conflicting opinions of the court on several points of law raised during the trial; the vague and undefined nature of the offence, and the refusal of a new trial, notwithstanding the judicial decision of Judge Perrin, that the traversers were entitled to it."

"Fourthly, Because Daniel O'Connell has unceasingly applied his great mind and talents to the amelioration of the condition of his country. By his patriotic and self-denying labours—his untiring and unconquerable energy—Ireland has obtained catholic emancipation, and its municipal government has been partially reformed, whilst he has been instrumental in successfully implanting in the minds of his fellow-countrymen, not only the virtue of peaceful endurance under their political and social wrongs, but the moral duty of constitutional exertion for their complete redress."

"Fifthly, Because Daniel O'Connell and his co-defendants, instead of being worthy of imprisonment, have, by their patriotic labours, entitled themselves to receive the marked respect and grateful acknowledgments of the whole people."

Having read the document Mr Sturge went on:—As this is an important document, I shall, before asking your sanction to it, read it again, paragraph by paragraph, and make a remark or two as I proceed. The introduction and first paragraph state, that, "We do hereby record our solemn protest against the prosecution, trial, sentence and imprisonment of Daniel O'Connell, and his co-defendants: first, because the government by which the prosecution has been conducted, was placed in power by the aristocracy, is maintained in office by a House of Commons, in the choice of which the great majority of the community have no voice, governs by means of a standing army, and the power of physical force, and does not express the judgment of the people of these realms" [great cheering]. I need not say that the statement in this paragraph that the House of Commons does not represent the people, is correct. The enormous corruption practised at the last general election, as proved by a committee of the House of Commons, is too well known to be denied; and no man will venture to say, that a House of Commons returned by such means, can be the house of the people [hear, hear]. The aristocracy themselves must admit this; and they know full well, that if the people were represented, there would be no need for a standing army in time of peace, or to govern the people in any way by physical force. The fact of the necessity of a standing army could not then be pleaded; but when justice is polluted at the fountain, it cannot be pure in its streams; and hence, when one evil is done other acts of injustice are generally required to prop it up [applause]. If justice were done to Ireland—and justice done to England—would Daniel O'Connell and his colleagues be in prison to-day? Were the people fully, fairly, and freely represented, would they be there to-morrow [cheers]? We ask you to protest secondly, "Because state prosecutions, prosecutions having for their end and object the suppression of the peaceable discussion of national grievances, are directly opposed to the spirit of the British constitution—tend to subvert all free institutions, and endanger the dearest political rights of the whole community" [cheers]. The whole history of state prosecutions prove that they are necessarily despotic, and that it is morally impossible for the accused to get a fair and impartial trial. I have before said, in this place, and have no hesitation in repeating it now, that the ground taken in the prosecution of Daniel O'Connell and his colleagues has been such that a precedent has been established in law by the conviction, which sanctions the unconstitutional and most dangerous doctrine, that peaceable meetings for legal purposes may be suppressed whenever they alarm the government, not the people [hear, hear, and cheers]. On this ground, meetings for the repeal of the corn laws—the repeal of the poor laws—the extension of the suffrage, or any other legal and constitutional purpose, may now be suppressed, as soon as the government feel that they are becoming influential and likely to serve the ends they were intended to promote. I have observed with regret that the people of England are not fully alive to the extent of the danger to which the liberties of the whole nation have thus become exposed [cheers]. "Thirdly—Because the prosecution has been characterised by circumstances exhibiting an unfair influence over the right administration of justice: viz.—the suspicious disappearance from the jury list, of a number of Roman Catholics, whereby the jury; 'instead of being neighbours to the fact, and unexceptionable to the parties concerned,' was constituted exclusively of the political and religious opponents of the accused—the marked bias against the defendants of one of the judges who presided—the conflicting opinions of the court on several points of law raised during the trial—the vague and undefined nature of the imputed offence—and the refusal of a new trial, notwithstanding the judicial decision of Judge Perrin that the traversers were entitled to it." Now, this, I believe, will meet with the unanimous concurrence of the meeting [hear]. The late Solicitor-general for England characterised the indictment as "a disgrace to Westminster hall," and the Solicitor-general for Ireland, who represented the Crown, sent a challenge, in open court, to one of the counsel for the defence, which might have ended in premeditated murder [hear, hear]. And, as to the jury, it is a remarkable fact that the words quoted in the protest, declaring how a jury should be composed, are the very terms of Magna Charta, the rights and privileges of which were conferred on Ireland by Henry III., and ratified by the Act of Union, in 1803 [cheers]. Now, is it not a breach of that Union to deny to Daniel O'Connell and his colleagues a jury composed of men who were unexceptionable to the parties concerned? The fourth and fifth paragraphs are to this effect:—"Because Daniel O'Connell has unceasingly applied his great mind and talents to the amelioration of the condition of his country. By his patriotic and self-denying labours—his untiring and unconquerable energy—Ireland

has obtained catholic emancipation, and its municipal government has been partially reformed; while he has been instrumental in successfully implanting in the minds of his fellow countrymen not only the virtue of peaceful endurance under their political and social wrongs, but the moral duty of constitutional exertion for their complete redress; and because Daniel O'Connell and his co-defendants, instead of being worthy of imprisonment, have, by their patriotic labours, entitled themselves to receive the marked respect and grateful acknowledgments of the whole people" [great cheering]. Now, whatever difference of opinion there may be as to some of the acts of Daniel O'Connell, or some things that he may have said or done in a hasty moment, I believe all will at once admit that his great talents have been devoted to the amelioration of his country [cheers]. Through his exertions catholic emancipation was obtained; and that the municipal government of Ireland was partially reformed was to be seen in the fact that seven or eight of them sent up deputations with addresses to their great leader in prison [hear, hear]. One thing has distinguished his whole conduct, which makes me rejoice to see such a man at the head of such a movement; and that is his constant and earnest inculcation of the doctrines of peace [great cheering], by which alone he has done more to promote the liberties of Ireland than ever could have resulted from centuries of wars and bloodshed [cheers]. As a warm testator, I rejoice in the good Father Mathew has done for Ireland; and, while that good man has taught the people to become sober, Daniel O'Connell has taught them not only the virtue of peaceful endurance, under their political and social wrongs, but the moral duty of constitutional exertions for their complete redress [cheers]. Even the judge admitted that Daniel O'Connell sought to gain his ends by moral and peaceable means, and expressed his confidence that he would continue to do so; and yet he sentences him to imprisonment, and binds him over to keep the peace by a bond of ten thousand pounds [shame, shame]. It is not, however, on behalf of Daniel O'Connell, that we would appeal for your sympathies and exertions. I hardly know whether we should congratulate him or condole with him in his present imprisonment; but it is with seven millions of Irishmen, who look to him as a counsellor and a leader, and who have been insulted and branded in his person, that we ask you, on this occasion, to hold out the right hand of fellowship and aid [cheers]. I hope you will practically recognise them as brethren, and not allow them, unaided, to carry forward this struggle, in which your liberties are more intimately involved than many Englishmen seem to imagine [hear, hear]; and as there is now an opportunity of expressing this sympathy in something more substantial than words, without at all committing ourselves to the question of repeal, I hope it will show itself by England's paying the fines which upon the traversers have now been imposed [great cheering]. I hope a step will be taken in this matter before the meeting separates [renewed cheering]. This day month I stood beside Daniel O'Connell, at Exeter hall, at a great meeting held for the promotion of the abolition of slavery and the slave trade throughout the world. Neither the infirmities of an age of seventy-years—the pressure of his engagements, nor the prospect of his being immured in a jail, deterred him from attending [hear]. At great personal inconvenience he went to London, thus exemplifying that his benevolence was not confined to Ireland's shores, but that without regard to geographical boundaries, or colour, or clime, wherever his brother man is in misery or in chains, Daniel O'Connell is his ready and his able advocate and friend [cheers]. And now, though his voice cannot be heard beyond his prison walls, I trust the men of Birmingham will not be backward in aiding him by every legitimate effort in seeking the redress of the wrongs of his beloved country [cheers]. The autocrat of all the Russias has just visited our metropolis [groans and growlings]. He is denounced as a despotic monarch by a large portion of the press, and his conduct to the Poles is spoken of with unmeasured reprobation. But what must have been his thoughts of British liberty, when he was told that under the British constitution, Daniel O'Connell, the representative of the great bulk of the Irish people, was incarcerated in jail for daring peaceably to declare and advocate their wants and wishes [cheers]. While, at the same time, he hears that, by the authority of the secretary of state, the private correspondence of the people is opened and read [shame]? May he not now ask, which country enjoys most real freedom—England, with her nominally free constitution, or Russia, with its despotism, which almost makes freedom a crime [cheers]? In conclusion—as to the great question which now agitates Ireland from its centre to its circumference—Daniel O'Connell emphatically, and I believe sincerely, disclaims any intention of seeking a separation between England and Ireland in demanding the repeal of the Act of Union which was accomplished by treachery and almost every crime which can disgrace humanity; and it is my deliberate conviction that it would promote the happiness of the United Kingdom generally to grant Ireland the entire management of her own affairs by means of a domestic legislature. I am prepared to say more, that if Ireland cannot obtain justice in any other way, she has a perfect right to seek, by legitimate means, a separation from this country. I am far, however, from anticipating any such necessity. If, by a united and peaceful effort of the whole kingdom, we could destroy the master grievance of class legislation, each country would, I believe, have no other rivalry but that of promoting their mutual happiness; and they might then—

"Like kindred drops, be mingled into one."

Mr Row seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councillor BARLOW moved, and Councillor BALDWIN seconded, the motion, that a memorial to the Queen, in terms of the protest, should be signed by the mayor, and forwarded for presentation.—The motion was unanimously passed.

A resolution approving of the suggestion to set on foot a subscription to pay the fines was moved by Mr J. H. WILSON, seconded by councillor ATCHISON, and unanimously carried.

A vote of thanks was then moved to the Mayor, and the meeting broke up.

SYMPATHY WITH IRELAND.—A public meeting was held at the Royal Amphitheatre, Liverpool, on Thursday night, at which it was resolved to present an address to the Queen, praying for the discharge from prison of Mr O'Connell and the other traversers, until the writ of error shall be decided by the House of Lords; and also to sympathise with those gentlemen under their late extremely severe sentence. Wm Blundell, Esq., of Crosby, presided.

LEICESTER PROPRIETARY SCHOOL.—The anniversary meeting of this excellent seminary was held at Leicester on Thursday last, and was numerously and respectfully attended. The object of the institution is to provide a sound secular education to the youth of the middle classes, superior to that usually afforded in schools of a more limited character. We rejoice to find that an institution so well suited to the requirements of the day, and undisturbed by anything of a sectarian nature, has realised the best wishes of its founders. "It has now," says the *Leicester Mercury*, "completed the eleventh year of its existence, and, by admitting within its classic walls the youth of all creeds and parties, has been instrumental in raising the standard of education for the middle classes in this town and neighbourhood to a point not inferior to the most renowned schools in the kingdom. When its unfettered gates were thrown open an incubus was removed from education in Leicester, since which it has steadily and progressively advanced." It is a matter of surprise that others of our large and important towns have not followed the example of Leicester in founding educational establishments on a similar basis. The course of instruction pursued at the Proprietary school embraces the classics, mathematics, natural philosophy, the modern languages, and a well-grounded commercial education; and this at a cost less than is usual in schools which can offer but a few of these advantages. At the meeting on Thursday a large number of prizes were distributed to the successful pupils, for their proficiency in the various branches of education. A considerable number of the questions submitted in the course of examination were taken from the Cambridge examination papers for B.A. degrees—no slight proof of their searching character, and no mean evidence of the efficiency of the plan of education pursued in an institution of so much more humble pretensions. The examiners were Mr J. Brown, vicar of St Mary's, Leicester, and Mr W. Pulling, M.A., F.L.S., of Sidney Sussex college, Cambridge, who each expressed their approbation of the diligence and proficiency of the pupils. The meeting was addressed by the Chairman (W. Biggs, Esq.), Mr Brown, Mr Mursell, baptist minister, Mr Wallis, principal of the Baptist college, Leicester, Mr Burgess, Mr S. Stone, and the first and second masters, Messrs Edmonds and Hollings.

INCENDIARISM IN SUFFOLK AND NORFOLK.—The incendiary fires continuing in Suffolk and the adjacent districts, the *Times* has sent "our own correspondent" to investigate the matter; and he writes very like the gentleman who did such good service in bringing to light the grievances of Wales. He imputes the fires to the low wages, combined with these circumstances—

"1. The effect of the altered custom of employing agricultural labourers by the day, instead of, as formerly, by the year.

"2. The effect of the new poor law upon the employment of labourers. And

"3. The enclosure of commons and vacant lands. The joint effect of the above causes driving the young men and boys to the resort of beer-houses, having no other place to go to."

There are several illustrations of the effect of low wages. The actual expenditure of different labourers is given in detail. Some near Ipswich, where there have been scarcely any fires, are "well off;" earning 9s., 10s., or even 12s. a week, with a quarter of an acre of ground, the cottage perhaps rent-free: the labourers here do make both ends meet, and though they have scarcely a penny to spare, are contented and intelligent; their cottages being models of neatness, and adorned with flowers. About Stowmarket there have been several fires: wages are nominally 9s. a week, but by various deductions for rainy days, slack work, or other things, they are often reduced to 7s. At Lamech, where the wages are 7s. a week, there have been several fires. The people say that their privations put "bad thro'ts" into their heads; and a clergyman told the reporter that he had heard that phrase fifty times. The incendiary fires in both counties still continue very prevalent. In the *Suffolk Chronicle* of Saturday, we notice a list of six fresh ones.

THE COLLIERIES' STRIKE.—We are informed that the rumoured settlement of differences between the miners and their employers is not verified. The former have lately held a meeting, at which, after some natural exultation at the unskillfulness of the hands who had been taken on to supply their place,

it was resolved that "we remain out of work until just and reasonable terms are offered to us"—i. e., until their demands are complied with.—*Times*.

EFFECTS OF A DREAM.—At Amptill, in Bedfordshire, a few nights since, a young man named Sexton, who has suffered much from asthma and was occasionally delirious, rose from his bed in the middle of the night, and proceeded to his sister's room, who found that her brother had cut his throat. Assistance was procured, and the wound was dressed. On rallying, he wrote upon a piece of paper, that during his sleep he dreamed that a policeman said he would put him in the stocks, and he replied, rather than that he should do so he would cut his throat. The policeman attempted to do so, and he then got up and took his pen-knife out of his pocket, and inflicted the wound.

SHOCKS OF EARTHQUAKE.—On Wednesday evening last, soon after seven o'clock, a heavy rumbling noise was heard in Kettering, and several of the surrounding villages, accompanied by a tremulous motion of the earth, and the vibration of the walls and buildings, as if a heavily laden carriage was passing. Jugs and glasses standing near each other were heard to shake together. At Uppingham, a distance of fourteen miles, the effects were still more remarkable.—*Northampton Mercury*. At Yaxley, Huntingdonshire, a most severe shock of earthquake was felt on Wednesday evening last, at half-past seven o'clock, more particularly on the hill. Scarcely a shower of rain has fallen since the 26th of March.

TEN BULLOCKS KILLED ON THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.—A drove of bullocks had strayed on the Birmingham portion of the Midland line of railway, on Friday night, the 8th inst, when the mail train, which leaves Birmingham soon after twelve at night, ran amongst them and killed three of their number. Just before this accident occurred, an engine and tender passed the drove en route to Birmingham, and presently meeting the mail train referred to, the driver became apprehensive that mischief might arise on the mail train coming up to the spot where the beasts were assembled, put back his engine to see the result, and be ready to afford assistance; when unluckily his own tender ran into the drove with a tremendous crash, killing seven more of the straying animals. A cow was killed, on Monday evening last, on the Midland line near to Loughborough.—*Leicester Mercury*.

EXTENSIVE FIRE NEAR FAVERSHAM.—Within the last two days the several fire insurance companies in the metropolis have received intelligence of another most disastrous conflagration, almost as extensive as the late one at Gravesend, occurring in Kent, at a small village called Newenham, situate about five or six miles from the town of Faversham, on the Leatham road, which, in the course of a few hours, burnt to the ground sixteen dwelling-houses, a capacious timber yard, and several other buildings. It happened on Tuesday morning, shortly after eleven o'clock.

IRELAND.

THE STATE PRISONERS.—REFUSAL OF THE GOVERNOR TO RECEIVE THE DEPUTATIONS.—An extraordinary scene was exhibited on Thursday in the city of Dublin, by the presence of deputations from different municipal bodies to Mr O'Connell. Those from the cities of Cork, Limerick, Waterford, Kilkenny, and Clonmel, were headed by the respective mayors; the other deputations were from the towns of Ennis, New Ross, Rosbercon, Carrick-on-Suir, Fethard (Tipperary), Fermoy, Kells, Galway, and Kingstown. It was arranged that they should assemble at the residence of Mr O'Connell, in Merrion square, and proceed from thence to Richmond bridewell. The procession consisted of about thirty carriages. An interview took place between Mr Pardon, the governor, and the mayor of Cork, the result of which was, that "no deputation could be permitted to enter the prison for the purpose of presenting an address to any person confined in it." A similar communication was made to the heads of the other deputations, and the cavalcade then proceeded to Mr O'Connell's residence in Merrion square, where a protest was drawn up, and the several addresses were handed to Daniel O'Connell, jun., Esq. The deputation then agreed on the following declaration, which has been published in the papers:—

"That the state trials and their result have produced, in the great communities with which we are connected, and throughout the whole country, a strong apprehension that life, liberty, and property cannot be considered safe as long as an administration so hostile to the national sentiment, and so obnoxious to the people, continues in power.

"That if anything could increase the popular exasperation it is this—that while on the one hand the most oppressive measures have been resorted to under the forms of law—on the other, ministers have been deluding the Irish nation by holding out, even in the speech from the throne, hopes of a just extension of their electoral rights at the very time that they contemplated the measure now before parliament, which, if it became law, will almost annihilate the miserable franchise we possess.

"That an administration which has pledged itself to maintain, in its full enormity, the monster grievance of a church establishment in Ireland, can never be countenanced by the Irish people.

"That notwithstanding such hollow professions, we see no attempt made to relieve the prevailing distress—we expect for the rack renting tenantry no alleviation of their misery, nor for our starving labourers any general employment; and all that can be looked for from the boasted land commission of this anti-Irish administration, is a tardy report, from which no practical benefit is likely to arise.

"That while we thus deliberately declare our opinions, that the continuance in power of the present administration is irreconcilable with the well-being of Ireland, still we are daily more thoroughly convinced that the liberties, the franchise, and the social prosperity of the people cannot be effectually, or at all, secured under any administration without giving to the Irish nation a participation in its government, by the establishment of its own parliament."

(Here follow the signatures of the mayors of Cork, Waterford, Limerick, Kilkenny, Drogheda, and

Sligo, besides those of the town commissioners of Ennis, Galway, &c.]

The *Evening Post* adds the following:—"The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Dublin has expressed his concurrence in the sentiments of the important address of the provincial corporations. Inn numberable addresses have also arrived from every quarter of the kingdom."

POPULAR DEMONSTRATIONS.—The Cork, Wexford, Waterford, Tipperary, Clare, Louth, Galway, and other papers, contain numerous reports of meetings to address Mr O'Connell, and the other state prisoners, and to promote the collection of the repeal rent. Dr M'Hale, Roman catholic archbishop of Tuam, has been entrusted with the addresses of the clergy of Westport, Castlebar, Ballinrobe, and Clifden, which he is to present on his arrival in Dublin next week.

THE REPEAL AGITATION.—A privy council was held at the castle yesterday; several conjectures were afloat as to the object of its deliberations, which did not terminate till six o'clock in the evening. Nothing, however, beyond mere surmises has transpired up to this afternoon. Meanwhile the impression is daily gaining ground that the conviction of Mr O'Connell and the more prominent leaders of the conspiracy is but the prelude to the adoption of ulterior measures for the total suppression of the repeal agitation. With respect to the rumoured suppression of the association, the *Kilkenny Moderator* states, upon what it avers to be good authority, that "the Secretary for the Home department was in communication with the law officers of the crown in Ireland, and that it is the deliberate opinion of the highest legal functionaries in both countries, that the Repeal Association may be suppressed by proclamation without applying for any stringent enactment to strengthen the hands of the executive." In Sligo a system of exclusive dealing is about to be put into operation. It is perfectly true, that a number of mutineers were dismissed from the schools for refusing (under whose orders it does not appear) to doff the repeal badge.—*Times* of Monday.

On the same subject the *Cork Reporter* of Saturday states, that it has received information, from sources upon which it places full reliance, that "a bill, to be preceded by a message from the crown, will very soon—perhaps in the course of a few nights—be brought in by Sir Robert Peel, which will have for its object the suppression of the association. After consultation, it was found that no existing law could reach it, and though it may be put down by proclamation, Sir Robert Peel will rather resort to parliament, which he can assuredly count upon to pass any measure of coercion for Ireland, than take the odium upon himself of acting with "a rigour beyond the law."

GARRISON ORDER AGAINST REPEAL BUTTONS.—Since the incarceration of Mr O'Connell and the other traversers, repeal buttons have been much more generally worn than before. It was very generally stated on Monday that a garrison order had been issued for the exclusion of all persons wearing repeal buttons from the various barrack yards in Dublin. The "button," it appears, has made its way at the "National" Board of Education:—"Is it true, asks the *Warder*, that twenty-four boys were expelled from this school because they insisted upon wearing the repeal button even during school hours? The prohibition was confined to school hours merely, but the boys would not doff the repeal honours even during that short period. Who supplied those poor boys with the repeal button?"

The expenses of the state prosecutions in Ireland, to the repeal party, have already exceeded £14,500.

SCOTLAND.

THE CROWN PRINCE OF DENMARK AND THE BAPTISTS.—Last Lord's day it was resolved by four of the baptist churches in this city to present a respectful memorial to our illustrious visitor, the Crown Prince of Denmark, soliciting his influence in behalf of their brethren in Denmark, who are at present suffering persecution, and some of them imprisonment, for no other crime than that of serving God according to the dictates of their conscience. This was done on the following day by a committee appointed by these churches, and was transmitted to the prince by the kindly aid of the lord provost. It was written in French and in English. We are satisfied that all the churches in our city, of every denomination, do most heartily concur in the prayer of the memorial.—*Glasgow Chronicle*. In reference to the proceedings of the Crown Prince of Denmark, who, it will be recollected, is making a geological tour through Scotland, we take the following extract from a Scotch paper:—"In one day, therefore, we have it on record, and it ought, for the honour of Scotland, to be engraven on a medallion to be struck on purpose, that his Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Denmark visited Leith, Pennicuik, and Roslin on Monday last; that he breakfasted twice, lunched twice, dined twice, and supped with Lord Murray."

PUBLIC BATHS.—We understand that a requisition to the lord provost, signed by upwards of 4,500 citizens, has been this week presented by a deputation from the working classes, requesting him to call a public meeting to consider the propriety of adopting measures for the erection of cheap public baths, and also to petition both Houses of parliament in favour of improved sanitary arrangements in large cities. It is to be hoped that the movement which has been so successfully begun in Edinburgh will be carried out with similar spirit here.—*Glasgow Post*.

STRIKE OF THE LANARKSHIRE COLLIERIES.—A strike, as sudden as it is extensive, has just taken place in the collieries in this county. Regarding the immediate cause of this sudden movement we have not been able to ascertain the particulars. The

strike has not extended to the iron stone miners.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

GLASGOW FEMALE PROTECTION SOCIETY.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Glasgow was held on Tuesday afternoon, at 1 o'clock, in the Trades' hall, Glassford street, to consider and adopt a petition in support of a bill for the suppression of brothels, now before parliament. The lord provost occupied the chair. Able and eloquent addresses, in support of the objects of the society, were delivered by Sir James Campbell, Dr Smyth, W. P. Paton, Esq., Professor Thomson, and Mr Gregg of the Western Academy; after which a series of resolutions were unanimously adopted for carrying out the views of the meeting. Letters, cordially approving of the design of the society, were read from Dr Wardlaw and Principal Macfarlan. The following are among the resolutions passed at the meeting:—

"That the evil of prostitution is productive of the most appalling consequences, physically and morally; and that its alarming extent calls for earnest efforts towards its suppression, on the part of ministers of religion, magistrates, and all who wish to lessen vice and to promote morality.

"That seeing there is a large class of persons in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, who make a trade of and live by the promotion of this fearful evil; and seeing that the present state of the law permits this trade to be pursued with comparative impunity, this meeting is glad to hear of a bill having been introduced into parliament, having for its object the suppression of this crime, and the punishment of such monstrous offenders; and further, that a petition be drawn up and signed by the chairman, on behalf of the meeting, praying the legislature to enact that trading in this vice in any part of the United Kingdom shall be adequately punished, especially when pursued in relation to young persons."

Another resolution was passed, approving of the formation of the Glasgow Female Protection Society.

Correspondence.

SLAVE-GROWN PRODUCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

RELUCTANT as I am to add to my remarks, in the *Nonconformist* of last week, I yet feel bound to disclaim the editor's construction, that my view of the duty of government to act justly towards all mankind, and to restrain its subjects from inflicting injury on any part of the human family, involves an approval of the system now pursued by the British government for the suppression of the foreign slave trade.

This I have uniformly protested against, as alike impolitic and unchristian. I hold that the slave trade cannot be destroyed but by the abolition of slavery; and that slavery will continue to exist as long as it has a profitable market for its produce. About three hundred thousand slaves in the United States have increased to nearly three millions, chiefly by means of the free admission of slave-grown cotton for the supply of our factories.

My objection to the present system for suppressing the Foreign Slave trade is perfectly consistent with affirming it to be the duty of government to abolish British slave trading in the subjects of other nations; and that it has the right, and it is its duty, to restrain its subjects from guilty participation in the slave trade and slavery of Cuba and Brazil, nations which have a pre-eminent claim to be distinguished as "pirates and pests of the ocean."

There are several other points, in the article on the "Proper Sphere of Government," from which I entirely dissent, but prolonged discussion does not always aid the perception of truth; and I cannot but hope that a calm consideration of the subject may yet lead the editor of the *Nonconformist* to perceive that the ground he has taken in this question is unsound. I am, respectfully,

JOSEPH STURGE.

Birmingham, 6th month 14th, 1844.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

Birmingham, June 17, 1844.

Most of the members of the Council of the Complete Suffrage Union being engaged with the town's meeting on the imprisonment of Mr O'Connell and his colleagues, the business transacted at their weekly meeting was mostly routine. With reference to the present critical state of the government, the Council would earnestly recommend that every attention be paid to the registrations, and that the various Complete Suffrage Associations throughout the kingdom should have their election committees in good working order.

JOSEPH STURGE AND SHARMAN CRAWFORD.—We have reason to believe that, if the complete suffragists of this city do their duty, we shall have the pleasure of a visit from the above-named gentlemen next autumn. It is perfectly certain that their presence amongst us would do great good, by infusing life and courage into the movement, not here only, but throughout Scotland. It would also afford the Scottish people an opportunity of testifying their deep obligation to those patriotic men, whose faithful defence of the principles of honest legislation is well known and appreciated by every section of the liberal party. We shall be delighted to find that we are rightly informed, and that the friends here will have the privilege of meeting them; and we are greatly mistaken if Messrs Sturge and Crawford receive not a welcome worthy of their strong claim upon the gratitude of every friend of full, fair, and free representation.—*Aberdeen Review.*

Francis, who shot at the Queen (we learn from a private letter lately received at Gateshead), is employed as a teacher in the government school at Port Arthur, Van Dieman's Land, and "conducts himself remarkably well."—*Gateshead Observer.*

DEATH OF THOMAS CAMPBELL, Esq., AUTHOR OF "THE PLEASURES OF HOPE."—It is with sincere regret we announce the death of this amiable man and celebrated and accomplished poet, which took place on Saturday last, at Boulogne-sur-mer, whither he had retired for the benefit of his health. Mr Campbell, we believe, was in his sixty-fourth year, and was a native of Glasgow. In early life, he occupied the situation of tutor in a private family, residing on the sea-coast of the island of Mull, and while there, planned, and partly executed, his celebrated poem, "The Pleasures of Hope." Mr Campbell afterwards removed to Edinburgh; and again, after a short interval, to London. He settled at Sydenham, and devoted himself to literature. The success of his poem, "The Pleasures of Hope," procured him admission into the most intellectual society of London, and he was universally recognised as one of the brightest stars in that bright galaxy of poets who shed a lustre on the first quarter of the present century. The mingled elegance and fervour of his style—the independence and liberality of his ideas—and the nobleness of his aspirations for the freedom and improvement of mankind—rendered him a great accession to the liberal cause in those days, when liberalism was a greater merit, and less widely extended, than it is now; and the warmest anticipations were indulged in of the future career of the young poet. He successively published the poems of "Gertrude of Wyoming," which he himself preferred to the "Pleasures of Hope," and in which verdict the best judges of poetry agree; "Theodoric," various songs and ballads, and more lately "The Pilgrim of Glencoe." His "Theodoric" has found but few admirers; his "Pilgrim of Glencoe," written in the decline of his years and imagination, still fewer; but the universal voice of criticism has pronounced his lyrics to be, without exception, the finest in the language. There is nothing equal of their kind in the whole range of our literature to "The Battle of the Baltic," "Ye Mariners of England," and "Hohenlinden;" lyrics which, indeed, to use the words of Sir Philip Sydney, in speaking of the ballad of Chevy Chase, "stir the heart like the sound of a trumpet." Many other of his ballads and lyrics are scarcely inferior: "Lochiel's Warning," "Lord Ullin's Daughter," "The Soldier's Dream," "The Last Man," "Wienbaden's Gentle Hind," and others, rise before us as we recall them to our memory, and make us deplore that the poet who could write so well would write so little, and that he has left the world no more compositions like these—so fine in conception, so elegant and so vigorous in execution, and so tender and so true in their sentiment. Mr Campbell, besides publishing a selection from the British poets, which has become a standard work, was the author of various prose compositions, which, had he not been so great a poet, would alone have gained him fame; but the merits of which were comparatively obscured by the greater blaze of that more difficult and more glorious renown which encircles the true poet. The principal prose works he wrote were, a "Life of Mrs Siddons," and a "Life of Petrarch." He also published "Letters from Algiers," whither he went for a visit in 1832, and more recently edited a "Life of Frederick the Great." Mr Campbell was at one time connected with the *Star* newspaper. He afterwards edited the *New Monthly Magazine*; and, on retiring from that office, established the *Metropolitan*, which, however, he did not long continue to edit. Our own columns have been frequently enriched by contributions from his pen. Mr Campbell enjoyed a pension of three hundred pounds a year, conferred upon him, we believe, through the influence of Charles James Fox, his ardent admirer and steady friend—a pension which no one ever said was ill bestowed. But the highest honour conferred upon him was when his fellow-citizens, the students of Glasgow, elected him lord rector of the University—a homage to his genius as flattering as it was rare, and to which he always referred with honest pride. He was also mainly instrumental in founding, and we believe, originated the scheme of the London University. Mr Campbell visited Germany in 1842, and at his return, having lived since the death of his wife in the comparative loneliness of chambers, took a house in Victoria square, Kensington, and devoted his time to the education of his niece. He found, however, that his health was failing, and he retired about a year ago to Boulogne, where, for some time, he derived benefit from the change of air and scenes. But the benefit was of short duration; and, though for some months previous to his death he held but little intercourse with his friends in London, it was generally known that he was fast failing.—*Chronicle.*

DOINGS AT THE "CARLTON."—The *Morning Post* gives an amusing account of a meeting held a few days since, of the members of this club, for the purpose of deciding whether or not the members of the Conservative club, whose house is not yet completed in St James's street, should be admitted to temporary fellowship. A scene ensued, much in character with those so frequently occurring in the House of Commons. The "Tadpoles and Tapers," as the *Post* calls them, attempted to prevent "a house being made." A noble lord, however, on the other side, declared his intention of talking against time until there was a sufficient muster to vote on the subject; and thought that the time had arrived when the Tadpoles and Tapers should not be permitted any longer to ride roughshod over the club. The "whip" was applied, and a "house" made. A division was then loudly called for, and the tellers at length announced the numbers to be—

For admitting the members of the Conservative club to temporary fellowship with the Carlton	75
Against it	16
Majority for the motion	60

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

Parson Paten was so averse to the Athanasian creed, that he never would read it. Archbishop Secker having been informed of his recusancy, sent the Archdeacon to know the reason. "I do not believe the creed," said the priest. "But your metropolitan does," replied the archdeacon. "It may be so," replied Mr Paten, "and he can well afford it: he believes at the rate of seven thousand pounds a-year, and I only at fifty."

SMART REPLY.—A person saying to another, "You speak foolishly," was sharply answered, "It is that you may understand me."

RESULTS OF INDUSTRY.—John Jacob Astor, who is supposed to be the wealthiest citizen of the United States, and to be worth at least ten millions sterling, commenced life in the humble capacity of an itinerant fishmonger.

NEW STEAM FRIGATES.—The *Avenger*, to be built at Woolwich, is to have engines of 600-horse power; the *Dragon*, at Pembroke, engines of 560-horse power; the *Centaur*, at Portsmouth, 540; the *Sphinx*, at Woolwich, 500-horse power; the *Scourge*, at Portsmouth, 420; the *Bull Dog*, at Chatham, 420.

The Duke of Rutland has let upwards of 1000 cottage garden allotments, generally limited to one-sixth of an acre, at a clear rent of 10s. a year.

To-morrow will be the seventh anniversary of her Majesty's accession to the throne.

A pinch of Peruvian guano put into the water containing cut or pulled flowers, will keep them fresh for a considerable time.

A colossal statue of Liberty is to be inaugurated at Paris, at the fites of July. This is not the first time that liberty has been chiseled in France.—*Punch.*

It is understood that the court of directors have agreed to the re-introduction of the system of corporal punishment in the native army of India.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

The export of cheese to China from this country is increasing, and will soon form a considerable item.—*American paper.*

Thirty churches have been built within the last ten years in the diocese of Chester, providing sittings for upwards of 220,000 persons.

A PLEASANT EXCURSION.—Dr Borland, editor of the *Little Rock Banner*, and Mr Borden, editor of the *Gazette*, Little Rock, Arkansas, at the latest accounts, were on their way to the Indian country, to fight a duel.—*New York paper.*

Our Paris letter assures us that the 9th September is fixed for the departure of the King of the French from Paris for London.—*Times.*

Children's clothes will not take fire if rinsed out after washing in a tolerably strong solution of alum water.

Mr Hood, the comic writer, has been labouring under severe and dangerous illness. We rejoice to learn that he is convalescent.

The leaves of the rhubarb plant, boiled and eaten as greens, are said to have poisoned a family in America.

THE "REPEAL BUTTON."—Peremptory orders have been issued by the authorities of Dublin to deny all access to the Castle yard to persons decorated with the "repeal button."

A gigantic railway through Russia from Odessa to the shores of the Black sea, a distance of one thousand miles, is in contemplation.

The *Berkshire Chronicle* states, on the authority of an old gentleman, aged 82, that the present season has not been exceeded in dryness since 1795.

The *Medical Times* states that it is highly injurious to asthmatic persons to breathe, touch, or take any preparation of ipecacuanha.

It is said that the address to O'Connell, which has been circulated in several towns of the province of the Rhine, has given occasion to some discussion between the English and Prussian governments.

The good people of Manchester are building twenty new churches. In one of those which have been completed there was no service on a recent Sunday afternoon, for want of a congregation.

The Great Western railway extension branch to Oxford was opened on Wednesday for public traffic.

The festival some time ago resolved upon in honour of the memory of Robert Burns, and to welcome his sons to the banks of the Doon, has now been fixed to take place on Wednesday, the 10th July next.—*Glasgow Argus.*

Theodore Hook on one occasion observing Colton's cellars under a chapel, wrote these lines:—

"There's a spirit above, and a spirit below;

A spirit of joy, and a spirit of woe:

The spirit above is a spirit divine;

But the spirit below is the spirit of—wine."

TO CLEAN SILKS.—(From one of the first Parisian Dyers.)—A quarter of a pound of soft soap, a teaspoonful of brandy, a pint of gin: mix all well together. With a sponge or flannel spread the mixture on each side of the silk without creasing it; wash it in two or three waters, and iron it on the wrong side: it will look as good as new.

GENERAL BUSINESS HOLIDAYS.—There is a movement in the city to induce the government to introduce into the Bank charter four or six general close holidays in the year, on which the Bank should not open for business; that all bills falling due on those days should be payable on the previous day, as if on Sunday or Christmas day. The authorities of the Bank have been consulted, and are favourable to the plan, as are also all the private bankers and merchants that have been consulted. It is intended to hold a public meeting on the subject, at which the Lord Mayor has consented to preside.

The following announcement lately appeared in a Jersey journal:—"To be sold, 181 law suits, the property of an advocate retiring from business. N.B. The clients are rich and obstinate."

Literature.

Principles of Education Practically Considered, with an Especial Reference to the State of Female Education in England. By M. A. STODART. Seeley, Burnside, and Seeley. 1844.

WE avow our partiality for ladies' works, especially upon some subjects. They are not always deep—and, on the whole, we had rather they should not attempt to be so—but they are often pointed, piquant, and practical; shrewd in their perception of human nature, graceful in the manner of addressing it, and strong in their appreciation of the moral as well as the intellectual. And if there be any subject on which woman has a right to think and to write, it is surely that of female education. We have much pleasure in congratulating the authoress of this volume upon the very instructive production which lies before us. We like the common sense everywhere apparent in these pages; an inestimable quality in the business of education. We admire, too, the writer's singleness of view, the unmistakeable enforcement of religious principles and Christian motives (the more delightful because in contrast with some very popular works on the same subject); and, though we cannot wholly agree to all her opinions, yet we do not the less admire the manly (we had almost said) tone in which her convictions of truth are maintained and insisted on. We are sure that this is a work which mothers may peruse with great profit; for we pity those who can only profit from a work pronouncing their own Shibboleth.

"The dull epitomes which are put into children's hands under the names of Histories of the Bible, Abridgments of Scripture History, &c., &c., may all be thrown to the winds. [The writer excepts that "excellent little work 'The Peep of Day'" and we wish it were not too late to review it.] A child will understand the language of the Bible, and particular parts of the Bible, far sooner than it can understand these pseudo-aids. The Bible should succeed to oral teaching—that is, as soon as a child can read for itself, in its own language, the wonderful works of God; and, if oral teaching has been gradual and progressive, the narrative becoming rather longer, the details more minute, according to the development of the intellect and the power of fixing the attention, it will form a sure preparation for reading the scriptures."—p. 37.

"The great evil in education, both moral and intellectual, is, that precepts are given, while principles are not enforced. Precepts are as a parapet to a bridge; they may prevent our falling into the water, but they will not help us to walk over the bridge; they are rather negative, in telling us what we ought not to do, than positive, by enabling us to do what is right. We wish, then, to engraft a right principle in the heart, even the principle which has been utterly destroyed—love to God, as the source of action. In the very first particular of moral training—in that one, too, which is of the highest and most influential nature, we are met by a difficulty; for we are aiming to accomplish what is beyond human power. As well might we attempt to create a world as to create this new principle within one human heart; and yet, without it, all moral cultivation is, in its nature, defective and worthless. The infusion of this new principle of action is neither more nor less than that which is styled in scripture "the creation of a new heart, the giving of a right spirit;" and it is a work which the Creator and Lord of all has reserved to himself."—p. 96.

We must refer our readers to the work itself for the manner in which this difficulty is encountered by the pious authoress.

We admire the manner in which the subjects of moral culture—moral training—accomplishments—school books—and physical education, are treated. For ourselves, we long for the day when to be *ladies*—the word has a peculiar, and to us not very agreeable, meaning—shall be no longer the ambition of our rising women.

The writer of this volume is not a bigot; but she is a churchwoman. We have said that we like her work the better for her undisguised avowal of her partialities; but the following passage provokes a smile:—

"A very interesting exercise for children, when sufficiently advanced, is to find scriptural proofs in support of the articles of the apostles' creed. We would not limit the application of the remarks that we have hitherto made on religious education; but we cannot forbear adding that a thorough grounding in the church catechism, with constant reference of its articles to scripture, will form a sound and broad basis of religious knowledge."—p. 44.

We should be glad to see, in another edition, the scripture proofs by which certain parts of this said catechism can be supported. Either there is more of the canon of inspiration than we have been accustomed to receive as genuine—in which there is chapter and verse for baptism being that "wherein I was made a member of Christ, a child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven," &c., &c., or else the proofs have hitherto remarkably escaped our observation. At the same time, we perfectly agree with our fair friend, and think that if children be taught religion, they should be taught nothing not to be proved by the book of God.

The Biblical Cabinet; or Hermeneutical, Exegetical, and Philological Library. Vol. XLIII. Containing Röhr's Historico-Geography of Palestine, and Smith and Wolcott's Researches in Palestine. Edited by E. ROBINSON, D.D. Edinburgh: Thomas Clark. 1843.

THE complete view presented of its whole subject renders this a very valuable work to those who desire to acquire, in a small compass, the history and geographical peculiarities of the Holy Land. This volume consists of two parts:—the former being a historico-geographical account of the land of Palestine, from the pen of Mr Röhr, principal chaplain at the court of Weimar; and the latter, the communications received by Dr Robinson, of America, from Messrs Smith and Wolcott, mentioned in the preface to the "Biblical Researches" in Palestine, as being about to prosecute the labours noticed in that work. Mr Röhr's work is thus divided:—I. Historico-geographical Observations on Judæa from the earliest periods to the time of Christ. II. A Description of the General State of Judæa in the time of Christ. III. A Particular Description of Judæa in its several Parts and Provinces in the time of Christ; accompanied by an Appendix, showing the Journeys of Christ in that country, ranged in chronological order. IV. Concluding Observations on the Fate of Judæa since the time of Christ, and on its Present Condition.

We apprehend that a close acquaintance with the peculiarities and localities of the land of Canaan ought to be regarded by every preacher, not only as a theological accomplishment, but as a study of indispensable importance. A mere reference to a dictionary *pro re nata* will by no means accomplish the same purpose. Incidents and allusions, in the Scriptures, often escape observation, when a deeper familiarity with this subject would bring them out into prominent notice; and which would not only add much to the pictorial effect of the book of God, but often elucidate its seeming obscurities. We know no work we can better commend for such a purpose than the present. It is succinct, compact, complete.

Our readers will be gratified by a few extracts:—"In the time of Christ, how was the natural beauty of this noble lake [that of Gennesaret] augmented by the charming towns, villages, and hamlets with which its shores were sprinkled! Here, in a lovely amphitheatre, and in close proximity to each other, were the populous towns of Capernaum, Bethsaida, Magdala, Tiberias, Emmaus, Tarichea, Gamala, Hippos, and Bethsaida-Julias; and intervening between these, a multitude of nameless, industrious, and flourishing places. Besides, the abundance of excellent fish, for which the lake was famous, supplied the surrounding population with occupation, food, and the means of support. About twelve hundred fishermen, with about two hundred and thirty boats, were continually employed on its mirror-like surface, and imparted the utmost animation to the picture of its natural beauties. Their fishing barks were continually being passed by the passage boats, which connected the inhabitants of the surrounding towns and villages in the closest intercourse, or furnished the means of a delightful pleasure-sail along its shores. Its waters had a gentle flow, and broke in little waves upon the beach, and were only occasionally thrown into commotion by a blast from the neighbouring hills and mountains; nor was this either of long continuance or very dangerous. They were agreeable to drink, constantly cool and clear, the bottom being visible, and lost themselves on its shores amid the fine white sand and ever-blooming aquatic plants. In short, this lake wanted nothing to make it and its vicinity the most charming spot in the whole of Judæa. It hence appears why Jesus, the warm and feeling lover of nature [has the author indeed suggested the true reason?] chose it as his favourite place of residence—why he, in a manner, made his home at Capernaum—why he so often and willingly wandered by its shores, or sailed on its waters, and made the surrounding towns and villages the scenes of his unwearied activity. From the fishermen of this lake he selected his disciples; on it he wrought his miracles; thither, where he had his most numerous and devoted followers, he resorted when threatened and persecuted by his enemies in Judæa and Jerusalem; and, if even here watched and in jeopardy, a short passage from the western to the eastern shore of the lake brought him easily into the dominions of the mild and just Philip the Tetrarch, where he found peace and security."—pp. 50, 51.

The following is the description of "Jerusalem as it now is":—

"Modern Jerusalem, in appearance a picture of the sad condition of the whole country, stands indeed on the site of the ancient city, but it is only on the east and west that it preserves its former boundaries, and includes within its walls a large portion of Mount Zion, as well as the plateau of Beyetha. It is only on the west side that the houses are close to each other; but on the east there are numerous gaps and vacuities. From the Mount of Olives, which anciently afforded such a splendid prospect, the spectator looks down on the city, which, with its lofty massive walls and numerous square and round towers appears a uniform mass of low, heavy, flat, square houses, thus possessing no elegance of form, mingled with the towers of Christian churches, the minarets of Mohammedan mosques, and the lofty summits of a few melancholy cypresses.

"The small and narrow streets of the city run up and down over an uneven surface, here and there unpaved, dusty, and covered with loose flints, and are gloomy and dark, owing to the awnings which are easily thrown across. In its miserable shops, only trifling articles are exposed for sale, and there is everywhere apparent a sad want of population, for the number of its inhabitants, Turks, Arabs, Jews, and Christians, only amounts to about twelve or fifteen thousand. The Christians are a mixture of all the eastern and western sects, and, in return for an annual tribute to the masters of the country, possess churches and convents, which often serve as a place of refuge to the native Arabs of the vicinity, who are oppressed and persecuted by the Turks."—pp. 139, 140.

Among other matters of interest the work contains a valuable itinerary of our Lord's labours, and a copious chronological table abridged (by the translator, we presume), from Usher and Calmet.

Pains have been taken in the notes to counteract the tendency of some rationalist errors, from which the work is not wholly exempt, and which we have traced in other instances than those referred to by the translator.

The second part of the volume is extremely important. We learn from it that when the British fleet left Syria in 1840, a corps of picked engineers was left behind in order to make a military survey of the whole country. The particulars have not yet fully transpired; but it appears that they are hereafter to be made public. One extraordinary fact is ascertained; that the level of the waters of the Dead Sea are 1337 feet below the level of the Mediterranean! Several other topographical researches of great interest are here related; particularly the discovery in Jerusalem, by Messrs Smith and Wolcott, of an ancient subterranean gateway beneath the Haram; and the traces of the ancient second wall, mentioned by Josephus, and of the aqueduct from Solomon's pools. For the details, together with other observations, made both in Jerusalem and the country in general, we must refer to the volume itself.

On the whole, and keeping in mind the caution we have given, we cordially recommend the volume to the minister, the theological student, and the Sunday School teacher.

A Treatise on Astronomy, displaying the Arithmetical Architecture of the Solar System, &c. By E. HENDERSON, LL.D., F.R.A.S. Second Edition, enlarged, and embellished with numerous Engravings. pp. 172. N. H. Cotes, Cheapside, London. 1843.

DR HENDERSON's former edition of this valuable work we are happy to find succeeded by the present, so much enlarged, and enriched with matter entirely original; illustrated by diagrams, many of which are constructed on a principle strictly new. Whether we view it as a production of prodigious labour, or as a comprehensive, familiar, and accurate exposition of this elevating science, the treatise before us is one of no ordinary merit. But a chief recommendation lies in the extremely clear, yet striking, scientific solution which the author gives of the various texts of scripture represented by modern infidelity as inconsistent with the discoveries, and facts, and demonstrations of astronomy. Though brief, the chapter on the plurality of worlds contains a concise and lucid exhibition of this *questio vexata*, demonstrating not merely the possibility, as was once the popular opinion, or the probability, to which the former has given place, but the certainty of the existence of countless worlds, teeming with intelligence, capable of appreciating the wisdom and marking the goodness of Him who bade the planets roll, and spoke the varied suns and systems into being. Should the public call for a third edition of this astronomical manual, we would advise the respected author to extend his observations on this inviting subject—a task he is so well qualified to undertake—on which is to be found so very little matter-of-fact knowledge, unwarrantable hypothesis having arrogated the province of reality, and mere theory been passed off for the grave dicta of truth. For the senior classes in our juvenile academies, or as a pocket companion for the practical astronomer, we sincerely and cordially recommend this excellent book.

The Voice of Christ to the Churches Considered, in a Course of Twenty-one Lectures, Expository and Practical, on the Second and Third Chapters of the Book of the Revelation. By EBENEZER MILLER, M.A. London: Jackson and Walford. 1842.

READERS in search of the useful, will find these discourses well worthy of their attention. They are short, serious, and practical. A more satisfactory statement of the fulfilment of prophecy in the present condition of the seven churches would have rendered the work more interesting; and such a view was, we think, imperative.

The Farmers and the Anti-League; in answer to Mr Day's Second Speech, published under the Title of "The Farmers and the Anti-League." By JAMES HILL. London: Effingham Wilson.

A SMART, clever, and witty pamphlet, which, like a case of grape and canister shot, can scarcely fail of doing execution in the quarter in which it may chance to alight!

The Pictorial Sunday Book. Parts IV. and V. *Old England.* Part V. Charles Knight and Co.

THE continuation of these valuable works is in every respect worthy of their commencement. The maps of the "Sunday Book" alone will form a novel and precious atlas of ancient geography. The present number of "Old England" is illustrated by a view of the Chantry chapel, Warwick—a striking specimen of the manner in which skilful hands can make a combination of three or four colours effective, and an admirable lesson for a young artist.

The Illustrated Bible History. Edited by CHARLES EDWARDS, Esq. Part I. Brain and Payne.

THIS first number of a new work contains three engravings. If not in the first style of art, they have considerable merit. The subjects are—the Deluge, the Presentation in the Temple, and the Disciples at Emmaus. Their effect is greatly lessened by the adorned margins, which ruin the effect of the plates they inclose. The last engraving of the three appears to us in many respects of superior merit.

Thoughts on Slavery and Cheap Sugar; a Letter to the Members and Friends of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society. By JAMES EWING RITCHIE. London: Aylott and Jones, 8, Paternoster row.

A WELL-TIMED pamphlet on a subject just now exciting much public attention. Mr Ritchie is an advocate for unrestricted free trade, and in an able and temperate manner, endeavours, both by argument and fact, to prove the unsoundness of the principle which would "do evil that good may come." The argument is well borne out by varied statistical information.

Address of to his Workmen. London: Gilpin, Bishopsgate street. 1844.

THIS is a very persuasive address on the subject of economy. Though not precisely an "Old Richard's Almanack," it has the same tendency. It shows a sound head and a benevolent heart. We warmly recommend it.

The Terms of Communion at the Lord's Table and with the Church of Christ. By ROBERT BOTTIE C. HOWELL, A.M. London: G. and J. Dyer. 1844. pp. 456.

The preface to this work, which reprehends the practice of open communion, will explain its nature and object:—"This work was first published at Philadelphia, United States, by the American Baptist and Sunday School Society, in 1841. It was written in consequence of a resolution passed unanimously by the Baptist State Convention of Tennessee, in 1840, requesting their president, Mr R. B. C. Howell, to prepare and publish a compendious work on the subject of communion at the Lord's table. The Convention were influenced in this movement, says Mr Howell, by the belief that the diffusion throughout their community of more information than was either at present possessed, or could easily be acquired, respecting the principles of the American Baptists on this subject, was essential to the success of truth. * * Mr Howell's object was—to write, not for scholars and divines, but for the mass of the people; to be at once compendious and explicit, simple and complete; to avoid the ambiguity of being too concise, and the tediousness of pursuing a course of involved and protracted argument. In the present edition, some few alterations and omissions have been made, in order the better to adapt the work for circulation in this country. For these the committee of the Baptist Tract Society are responsible. When deemed of sufficient importance, they have been noticed where they occur."

DISSENTERS' AND GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—A copy of the report of this Company, presented to the shareholders, at the fifth annual general meeting of the Company, on the 18th ult., has been forwarded to us, from which we make one or two extracts. One feature of the Company's operations has afforded us peculiar satisfaction. Two hundred and thirteen policies, assuring £87,323, had been issued on the lives of ministers, up to the 31st December last, and the reduction of premium effected by the minister's fund, was equivalent to ten and a half per cent. on all monies paid prior to the first quinquennial declaration of the profits of the Company in May, 1843:—

The total number of policies issued to the close of 1843, and the amounts insured by them, are—
Life—1260 policies covering £527,788
Fire—12,911 £9,270,747
Of the fire policies issued, 687, covering £639,135, are on colleges, chapels, and school rooms, belonging to various dissenting denominations, and 436, insuring £145,455, are on the residences and furniture of ministers.

In noticing these facts, particularly the former, the directors are desirous of calling the special attention of their friends to the importance of increased caution in the modes adopted for warming their chapels and school rooms. Claims are frequently arising, under the Company's policies, for injury done to such buildings—by overheating the stoves employed, or by other injudicious arrangements consequent on the diversified plans adopted for ventilation and warmth. Too great caution cannot be exercised in those matters, and the directors respectfully press the subject on the notice of their friends.

The gross amount of fire premiums received during the year, is £7,484 15s. 6d., and of life premiums, £14,461 0s. 10d.; while the losses incurred are—in the fire department, £1,350 10s. 3d., and in the life, £2,716 16s. 8d. The latter of these amounts is about the average of previous years, but the former is considerably below it—the fire losses in 1842 being £2,466 13s. 3d., and in 1841, £7,696 9s. 8d.—though the amount of business transacted in those years respectively was considerably less than that of last year.

The assets of the Company, as shown by the auditors' report, amounted, at the close of the year 1843, to £67,619 11s. 9d., while the general aspect of its business was decidedly more favourable than at any former period.

In closing their report, the directors again remind the proprietors that on their own exertions—each in his locality and circle—the prosperity of the Company is mainly dependent. To them, therefore, they appeal on the double ground of pecuniary interest and of benevolent sympathy. Let the past be regarded but as an earnest of the future—a token and pledge of the harvest yet to be reaped. It shows what may be accomplished, and promises an ample return if the zeal engaged be only commensurate with the kindness and wisdom of the design. In the same proportion in which it is accomplished, the interests of the shareholders will be advanced; and what is of higher moment, and must prove far more gratifying to philanthropic minds—the discomforts of penury, and the aggravated sorrows frequently experienced by the widow and the fatherless, will be kept from the families of those from whom the ministrations of religion have been received.

Religious Intelligence.

TAUNTON.—On Tuesday, the 11th of June, the new independent chapel, North street, Taunton, was opened for the worship of God. A meeting for prayer was held in the morning at half-past six o'clock. The morning service commenced at eleven o'clock, but long before that hour the chapel was densely crowded. Mr W. H. Hendebourck, of Tiverton, read the scriptures and prayed; and Dr Reed, of London, preached an appropriate, eloquent, and animated sermon, from Numbers x, 29. Mr J. Jackson, baptist, of Taunton, concluded with prayer. The collection was £105. About two o'clock upwards of two hundred persons sat down to a dinner laid out in the building used as a temporary chapel. Dr Reed presided; and the following ministers were present:—Messrs J. Jackson, of Taunton (baptist); Fuller (baptist); Woolmer, of Wellington (Wesleyan); Cuff, of Wellington; Bishop, of Bridgewater; Hendebourck, of Tiverton; Poole, of Bishop's Hull; Griffith, of Chard; Meadows, of Glastonbury; Underwood, of Milverton; Hodge, of Wiveliscombe; O'Neil, of Witheridge; Pinstone, of North Petherton; Featone, of Hackney; Gammon, of Norton; Strongman, of Kingston; Bishop, of

Curry Rivel; Oram, of Othry; and several others. Letters expressing regret for unavoidable absence were received from Dr Payne, and Messrs Dobbin, of the Western academy; Bounsall, of Ottery, St Mary; Knill, of Wotton-under-edge; Haynes and Jack, of Bristol. As soon as the cloth was removed, Dr Reed commenced the business of the meeting by calling for the financial statement, which was as follows:—The chapel, including the ground, had cost £2,513. A subsequent purchase had been made of a commodious house and garden adjoining the chapel property, as a residence for the minister, which, with other matters, had involved a further expense of £450 in laying out the ground, and building extended boundaries, making a total of £2960. Up to the day of opening, £2300 had been raised, £110 of which was raised by the Sabbath school, which left a balance of £660 against the chapel. A friend had promised £100 if the remainder were collected that day. The morning collection was £105, which left £445 to be raised that afternoon and evening. Dr Reed appealed to the meeting in a pointed and practical speech, and the subscription commenced by Mr W. H. Hendebourck, of Tiverton, announcing £10, at the close of a very strong appeal. Various sums were announced in rapid succession, until £150 had been handed to the chairman. A letter was read from some of Mr Quick's (the pastor of the church) friends at Stepney meeting, expressive of their affectionate remembrances of his labours among them as their assistant pastor, and, as a token of their regard, presenting him with the furniture for the new pulpit, consisting of a very elegant velvet cushion, a handsomely bound bible, and Watts's and the Congregational Hymn Book. The evening service commenced at half-past six. Mr J. Cuff, of Wellington, read the scriptures and prayed; and the venerable W. Jay preached from Luke xlii, 48, "That sight." The sermon possessed all the distinguishing characteristics of the man who has retained his popularity undiminished for more than half a century. Mr J. Bishop, of Bridgewater, concluded with prayer. The collection was £70. A second congregation was formed outside the chapel in the open air, to accommodate a large number of persons who could not possibly get in, and Mr O'Neil was called from the congregation within to preach to that without. After the crowd had dispersed, a number of friends remained in the chapel, determined not to close the doors until it was paid for, and in less than an hour the whole amount was subscribed; making the collections throughout the day, £550. Thanks were then given to God, in singing and prayer, and the friends retired, feeling assured that they had witnessed a day never to be forgotten. As long as the chapel stands, it will be a monument of the efficiency of the voluntary principle; especially when it is remembered that £2,950 have been raised in ten months by a body of persons only 65 in number when the foundation stone was laid in August last. The minister's house has an incumbrance upon it, and school rooms have yet to be built.

NEW COURT CHAPEL, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—The services connected with the settlement of Mr H. Christopherson, late of Stepney college, as co-pastor with Mr Sample, of the baptist church at New Court chapel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, took place on Tuesday, the 4th inst., and were numerously attended. After suitable portions of scripture had been read, and prayer offered by Mr Campbell, A.M., of St James' chapel, an introductory discourse was delivered by Mr James Acworth, A.M., president of the Baptist college at Horton, near Bradford; the newly elected minister, having given an account of his faith and of his acceptance of this call which had been presented to him, was then commended to God in prayer by his future colleague; and a very solemn and affectionate charge, founded on 2 Tim. iv, 5, was addressed to him by Dr Raffles, of Liverpool, in the absence from illness of Dr Cox, of London. Dr Raffles also preached in the evening to the church and congregation; and several ministers of various denominations engaged in the devotional exercises of the day.

THE PEMBROKESHIRE ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST CHURCHES.—The annual meetings of the associated baptist churches in Pembrokeshire, were held in Pater, on the 4th and 5th of June, 1844. The ministers and messengers from the various churches were present. The following ministers preached on the occasion:—Ellis, of Llanfor; Morgans, of Sardis; Griffiths, of Tenby; Lloyd, of Ebenezer; Jones, of Landewi; Jones, of Carmarthen; Price, of Abersyshan; Davis, of Llanglofan; Reynolds, Earls Colne; Williams, Hunslet. The services were held in the open air; many thousands were present, and the vast crowd listened with marked attention, and some of them were affected even into tears.

BIRTHS.

June 12, at Grove hill, Mrs THOMAS PIPER, of a daughter.
June 13th, at Surrey paragon, the lady of Mr JAMES SHERMAN, minister of the gospel, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

June 1, at Orchard Street chapel, Stockport, by the pastor, Mr John Waddington, Mr J. B. SUNDERLAND, of Alredale college, Bradford, missionary to the South Seas, to MARY ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of Mr Richard MANN, of Stockport, accountant.
June 5, in the English Independent chapel, St Heller's, Jersey, by Mr W. J. Unwin, A.M., Mr J. CHATFIELD, independent minister, of Newton Abbot, Devon, to MARY FATHERBRIDGE, eldest daughter of the late Mr John BUDD, of the same place.
June 5, at the Independent chapel, Melton Mowbray, by Mr J. Roberts, Mr E. MARTINDALE, to Miss CATHERINE BATTY, both of that place.
June 6, at Union chapel, Brixton hill, by Mr John Hunt, THOMAS JAMES ASHDOWN, to MARY ANN BIRKIN, both of Streatham.
June 8, at Lewin's Mead chapel, Bristol, SAMUEL WORSLEY, Esq., to ELEANOR HARPER, third daughter of the late WILLIAM PARKES, Esq., of Warwick.
June 11, at East Brook chapel, Bradford, by Dr Beaumont of Liverpool, Mr T. A. HANSON, staff merchant, of the firm of Geo. Hanson and Sons, to SARAH ANN, eldest daughter of Thomas BEAUMONT, Esq., surgeon, Laura place, Bradford.

June 11, at Claremont place, Glasgow, by Dr Wardlaw, WILLIAM WARDLAW, Esq., writer, Glasgow, to MARGARET FISHER, daughter of the late Mr Walter Wardlaw.

June 12, at Horton Lane chapel, Bradford, by Mr P. Hardesty, minister of the gospel, Mr JOHN SEYMOUR, warehouseman, to Miss Mary Holdsworth, of that place.

June 13, at Holywell Mount chapel, London, by Mr J. Wilcox Percy of Warwick, Mr WILLIAM CHETTER, of Havering, Suffolk, to Miss SARAH ELLIS FRANCE, eldest daughter of the late Mr Wm Pearce, of Barrington, Cambridgeshire.

June 13, at Belgrave chapel, Leeds, by the pastor, Dr R. W. Hamilton, Mr G. W. ENGLAND, upholster, to ELIZABETH ANDREWS, daughter of the late Mr John HAY, draper, all of that town.

June 13, at the Independent chapel, Torquay, Mr WILLIAM HUDSON BILBROUGH, of Bradford, son of James Bilbrough, Esq., Gildersome, near Leeds, to HANNAH, third surviving daughter of Mr James KNOTT, cotton spinner, Ashton-under-Lyne.

June 14, at the Independent chapel, Kentish Town, by Mr E. Prout, independent minister, of Halstead, Mr E. STALLYHARR, late missionary in Siberia, to SARAH, daughter of the late Mr James BASS, independent minister, of Halstead, Essex.

DEATHS.

June 5, at the house of his father, aged 92, Mr SHEPHERD RAY BUCK, only son of Mr George Buck, St Margaret's terrace, Ipswich.

June 9, at Richmond house, Bathmies, in her 77th year, ELIZABETH, widow of George THOMPSON, Esq., late of Ely place, and great-granddaughter of Robert Barclay, author of the "Apology for the People called Quakers," and other polemical works.

June 9, much lamented, after a short but severe illness, DANIEL CURLING, Esq., of Canonbury, and lately of No. 18, Chesapeake, in the 63rd year of his age.

June 9, suddenly, while addressing the congregation at the meeting-house of the society of Friends at Darlington, W. BACKHOUSE, Esq., senior partner of the banking establishment of Backhouse and Company, of that town.

June 10, at Thaxted, in the 89th year of his age, Mr WILLIAM WRIGHT, late of Chipping Ongar.

June 12, after a long and painful illness, borne with great patience and resignation, Mr HENRY WILKINSON, of Kingston, Cambs, aged 96. He was actively devoted to the cause of the Redeemer, with unwearied exertion for the welfare of the rising race.

June 15, aged 33, Mr THOMAS PARRY, pastor of the first congregational church in Dover, and formerly of Blackburn. His pastoral labours in Dover commenced only in February last.

June 16, at Christian Malford, Wilts, HENRY, eldest son of Mr J. HOOPER, minister of the gospel. He was just about to commence studying for the ministry at Highbury college, when attacked by that fatal disease, consumption.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, June 14.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

Roman Catholic chapel, Wrexham, Denbighshire.
Bethesda chapel, Liverpool.
Wesley chapel, Coventry.
Ebenezer English Wesleyan chapel, Cardiff, Glamorganshire.

BANKRUPTCY ANNOUNCED.
WILCOCKSON, SAMUEL, Chesterfield, linen draper.

BANKRUPTS.
JOHNSON, THOMAS, son, JOHNSON, WILLIAM, and MANN, CHARLES, Romford, Essex, bankers, June 24, August 12: solicitors, Messrs Stevens and Co., Queen street, Chesham.

MACFARLANE, DUGLAS, Berners street, Oxford street, wine merchant, June 21, July 19: solicitor, Mr C. Crouch, 37, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane.

MUSKOVY, RICHARD, Birmingham, woollen draper, June 26, August 3: solicitors, Messrs Hardwick and Guest, Weavers' hall, Basinghall street, London.

TAYLOR, JAMES, Liverpool, commission merchant, June 26, July 26: solicitors, Messrs Gregory and Co., Bedford row, London, and Messrs Rogerson and Radcliff, Liverpool.

THOMPSON, ALFRED, Southampton and Chichester, grocer, June 25, July 26: solicitors, Messrs Newbon and Evans, Wardrobe place, Doctors' Commons.

WOOD, HENRY, Basinghall street, City, woollen factor, June 25, July 26: solicitors, Messrs Dixon and Overbury, Frederick's place, Old Jewry, and Messrs Hardwick and Davidson, Weavers' hall, City.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BOWER, ROBERT, Meathie, farmer, June 22, July 20.
MERCHER, ANDREW, Upperholm, merchant, June 20, July 18.

DIVIDENDS.

Heslewood and Co., Kingston-upon-Hull, and Red Lion wharf, City, white lead manufacturers: div. of 3d. and 11-16ths of a penny in the pound, under the estate of Heslewood Brothers; first and final div. of 1s. 9d. in the pound, under the separate estate of Robert Heslewood; and first and final div. of 6s. 6d. in the pound, under the separate estate of John Skitt, any Tuesday—E. Messum, Portsea, Hampshire, brewer; second div. of 7d. in the pound, any Wednesday—C. Clarke, Banbury, Oxfordshire, linen draper; first div. of 3s. 6d. in the pound, any Wednesday—R. Tesby, Winchester, plumber; first div. of 2s. 7d. in the pound, any Wednesday—T. B. Lawford, 106, Fenchurch street, wine merchant; first div. of 9d. in the pound, June 19, and two following Wednesdays.

Tuesday, June 18.

BANKRUPTCY ANNOUNCED.
WARD, FREDERICK HIGGINSON, 3, Arbour terrace, Commercial road, tallow chandler.

BANKRUPTS.

DRAY, EDWARD WILLIAM, Heathfield, Sussex, grocer, July 4 26: solicitors, Messrs Loft and Potter, 36, King street, Chesham.

HOLLAND, JOHN, Buxted, Sussex, draper, June 28, July 26: solicitors, Messrs Loft and Potter, 36, King street, Chesham.
PRACOCK, HENRY and PRACOCK, JOHN, Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, grocers, July 5, August 5: solicitors, Mr William Lockey Harle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Messrs Chiscombe and Co., 64, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

LEAVER, THOMAS, Great Coxwell, Berkshire, baker, June 27, July 26: solicitors, Messrs Clark and Co., 20, Lincoln's inn fields; Mr J. Haines, Faringdon.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

BRAYSON, JAMES, Drumcrosshall, Linlithgowshire, June 21 July 12.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The prices of stocks have fluctuated much since our last, but not much business has been done. Consols are still closed.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 per cent. Reduced	99	99	98½	98½	98½	98½
3 per cent. Reduced	103	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
New 3 per cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annuities	12	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	199	199	198	198	199	199
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	72pm	73pm	76pm	76pm	77pm	77pm
India Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	114	Mexican	35
Belgian	104	Peruvian	27
Brazilian	81½	Portuguese 5 per cents	46
Buenos Ayres	36	Portuguese 3 per cents	—
Columbian	13	Russian	118
Danish	88	Spanish Active	83½
Dutch 2 per cents	61½	Spanish Passive	—
Ditto 5 per cents	100½	Ditto Deferred	13½

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	59	London and Brighton	47
Birmingham & Gloucester	914	London & Croydon Trunk	184
Blackwall	64	London and Greenwich	7
Bristol and Exeter	80	Ditto New	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Manchester & Birm.	56
Edinburgh and Glasgow	114	Manchester and Leeds	106
Great North of England	664	Midland Counties	93
Great Western	99	Ditto Quarter Shares	24
Ditto Half	122	North Midland	93
Ditto Fifth	76	Ditto New	45
London and Birmingham	216	South Eastern and Dover	36
Ditto Quarter Shares	25	South Western	86
		Ditto New	—

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, JUNE 17.

The supply of English wheat this morning was short, but in course of last week the arrival of wheat from Lincolnshire and coastways direct to millers was large.

There was a very slow sale for wheat, at rather worse prices than last Monday; and in old foreign wheat almost nothing doing. Wheat in bond, as a speculation, neglected; but in the course of last week there were about 4,900 quarters cleared in for consumption, at the duty of 17s. per quarter.

Arrivals of oats since this day week have been liberal; this article maintained last Monday's prices, but the demand was not brisk.

Free barley and peas scarce, and each 1s. per quarter higher than this day week.

Beans no dearer.

Oats, barley, beans, and peas, in bond, in request.

Wheat, Red New	44 to 52	Malt Ordinary	46 to 56
Fine	52 to 56	Pale	60 to 64
White	45 to 52	Rye	34 to 37
Fine	54 to 62	Peas, Hog	32 to 35
Flour, per sack	39 to 50	Maple	35 to 38
Barley	28 to 33	Boilers	36 to 38
Malting	32 to 34	Beans, Ticks	32 to 38
Beans, Pigeon	36 to 40		
Harrow	28 to 32		
Oats, Feed	21 to 24		
Fine	24 to 26		
Poland	23 to 24		
Potato	22 to 24		

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR JUNE 14.	AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.
Wheat	55s. 6d.
Barley	31 4
Oats	21 11
Rye	33 11
Beans	35 11
Peas	34 1
Wheat	55s. 6d.
Barley	31 1
Oats	21 1
Rye	32 2
Beans	33 8
Peas	32 4

SEEDS.

Clover seed was held at considerably advanced rates, owing to the unfavourable reports of the growing crop. Canary seed is also said to have been injured by the drought, notwithstanding which the recent advance was not supported. Tares for feeding were dearer; and linseed cakes also brought full rates.

Linseed	per qr	Clover	per cwt.
English, sowing	54s. to 60s.	English, red	— to —
Baltic, ditto	—	Ditto, white	—
Ditto, crushing	40 to 42	Flemish, pale	—
Medit. & Odessa	41 to 43	Ditto, fine	—
Hempseed, small	35 to 38	New Hamb., red	—
Large	—	Ditto, fine	—
Canary, new	58 to 60	Old Hamb., red	—
Extra	61 to 63	Ditto, fine	—
Caraway, old	—	French, red	—
New	57 to 60	Ditto, white	—
Eragras, English	—	Coriander	15 to 20
Scotch	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed	per last
Brown, new	13 to 17	English, new	26s. to 28s.
White	8 to 11	Linseed cakes	—
Trefoli	23 to 30	English	9s. 10s. to 10s. 0s.
Old	19 to 26	Foreign	5s. to 6s. 10s.
Tares, new	4 to 5	Rapeseed cakes	4s. 10s. to 5s. 0s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, JUNE 17.

New Irish butter has been in limited request, and the transactions such as to require no particular comment. Dealers show no desire to buy beyond present wants. Prices:—Waterford, Cork, and Limerick, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per cwt on board. Foreign:—The last arrivals not cleared off, and the price for Friesland and Alst, 7s. 6d. per cwt supported with difficulty. Fresh and other sorts in plenty, and cheap. There was a better sale for tallow, and a fair amount of business transacted, at from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per cwt, according to size, quality, and quantity. Sale and tierce middles not in better demand, in price the turn cheaper. A quantity of hams out of competition have been disposed of at comparatively low rates, and caused a limited demand for the best kinds. Prices have risen accordingly, from 4s. to 6s. per cwt. Lard very dull, prices nominal.

HOPS, SPANISH, MONDAY, JUNE 17.

The market for hops has been steady, but the advices from the plantations coming more favourable, there is less disposition to operate.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SPANISH, MONDAY, JUNE 17.

The attendance of both town and country buyers was numerous. For the principal sorts, home-bred, &c., there was an improved demand. In other kinds of beef very little business was done, and the prices were low. The numbers of sheep were not large, and the quality was not so good as in our last report, and full prices were obtained by the salesmen. Notwithstanding the numbers of lambs were extensive, the demand for that description of stock was firm, at an advance of 4d. per stone, and at which amount of improvement a good clearance was effected. Owing to the supply of which was good, not a very great inquiry. The pork trade was in a very sluggish state, yet we saw notice no alteration in figures. From Ireland, by steamer, upwards of 200 came to hand.

Per stone of 14 lbs. (making the odd)	
Beef	3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.
Lamb	3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.
Pork	3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.

Per stone of 14 lbs. (making the odd)	
Beef	3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.
Lamb	3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.
Pork	3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.

Per stone of 14 lbs. (making the odd)	
Beef	3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.
Lamb	3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.
Pork	3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.

COTTON.

Cotton has been in good demand throughout this week, at steady prices, and the market closed firmly; in some instances at an advance of 1d. per pound on American. Egyptian is in moderate demand, at former rates. In Brazil a fair business has been done, but prices are barely supported. Surat is less freely offered, and in fair demand at full prices. The sales of the week amount to 25,710 bales, including 5,300 American and 200 Surat on speculation, and 1,500 American for export.

WOOL.

There has been more business done in combing and clothing wools, and a better tone of feeling prevails, but prices are not

yet such as to afford a profit on the rates asked and obtained by the farmers.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, JUNE 15.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow	75s. to 80s.	New Clover Hay	85s. to 115s.
New ditto	—	Old ditto	—
Useful Old ditto	84 to 88	Oat Straw	26 to 28
Fine Upland ditto	90 to 95	Wheat Straw	28 to 30

COAL EXCHANGE, JUNE 17.

Stewart's, 23s. 6d.; Hetton's, 23s. 6d.; Braddyl's Hetton's, 24s. Ships arrived this week, 95.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, JUNE 18.

TEA.—About 5000 packages are advertised for sale to-morrow. There is but little business doing.

COFFEE.—120 casks Jamaica, offered in auction, sold at fair rates. Good middling, 100s. to 110s.; fine ordinary, 66s. to 76s. COCOA.—40 bags Trinidad, of middling red quality, at auction, were taken in at 44s. per cwt.

SUGAR.—150 hhds new Barbadoes sold in auction at lower rates. Good to fine yellow selling at 61s. to 66s. per cwt. The trade bought about 700 hhds and tierces, and prices are 6d. to 1s. lower. Refined goods are much offered. Standard and lump selling at 76s., and brown lumps at 75s. per cwt.

Advertisements.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS intended for the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE must be addressed, from this date, to the Secretaries, at the Society's Offices, ALDINE CHAMBERS, PATERNOSTER ROW.

(Signed) F. A. COX, EDWARD MIALI, Secretaries. J. M. HARE.

June 13, 1844.

DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.

At a Meeting of the United Committee of the Presbyterian Union and of the Deputies attending in support of this Bill from Liverpool, Manchester, Bolton, Leeds, Sheffield, Dukinfield, Nottingham, Mansfield, Leicester, Birmingham, Coventry, Warwick, Norwich, Bristol, Bath, Taunton, Ilminster, Exeter, Brighton, Newport (Isle of Wight), Dublin, and Belfast, held at FENDALL'S HOTEL, Old Palace Yard, Westminster, on the result of the Debate on the Second Reading of this Bill becoming known,

MARK PHILIPS, Esq., M.P., in the Chair, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by THOMAS W. TOTTIE, Esq., of Leeds; seconded by JAMES HEYWOOD, Esq., of Manchester:—

"That we are bound, at the earliest moment, to express our unfeigned and earnest gratitude to Sir Robert Peel, the Lord Chancellor, Mr Gladstone, the Attorney-General, and the rest of her Majesty's government, for the noble and disinterested protection which they have afforded, on the simple ground of justice, to bodies small in their numbers, comparatively unimportant in their position, chiefly political opponents, and obnoxious to so many of their dissent and their peculiar tenets."

Moved by THOMAS BOLTON, Esq., of Liverpool; seconded by JOHN ASHTON YATES, Esq., of London:—

"That our deep and heartfelt thanks are also due to the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Brougham, Lord Cottenham, Lord Campbell, Lord John Russell, and Lord Sandon; Mr Macaulay, Mr Shell, Mr Bernal, and Mr Monckton Milnes; and to the other eminent men who have given to this measure so much and such energetic support."

Moved by SAMUEL SMITH, Esq., of London; seconded by HORATIO BOLINGBROKE, Esq., of Norwich:—

"That we cannot but look on the marked concurrence of all the great statesmen and lawyers of the day, in a measure for the relief of a small and unpopular sect, and on the determined disregard to the dictatorial and bigoted denunciations of so many of their constituents, which 307 members of the House of Commons have shown in its support, as an animating proof that the great principles of civil and religious liberty are not retrograding in this country, nor are likely to retrograde."

Moved by THOMAS REYNOLDS, Esq., of Bristol; seconded by JOSEPH DAVY, Esq., of Exeter:—

"That although it would be a disgrace to treat this measure as being, in any degree, the victory of a sect, yet after all the foul aspersions so ungenerously thrown on our ancestors and ourselves, for the mode in which they and we have dealt with our religious and charitable property, it is with extreme delight we have heard the complete and triumphant vindication which their acts and our own have at last received from men unfettered by legal technicalities—unbiased in their position—and pre-eminently competent to judge upon the question."

MARK PHILIPS, Chairman.

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